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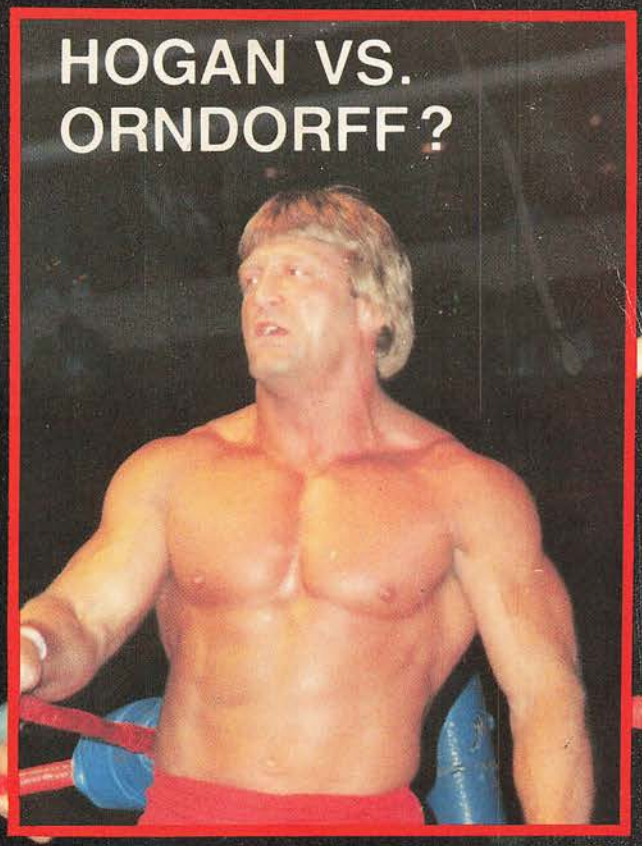

IS JESSE 'THE BODY' VENTURA MISSING?

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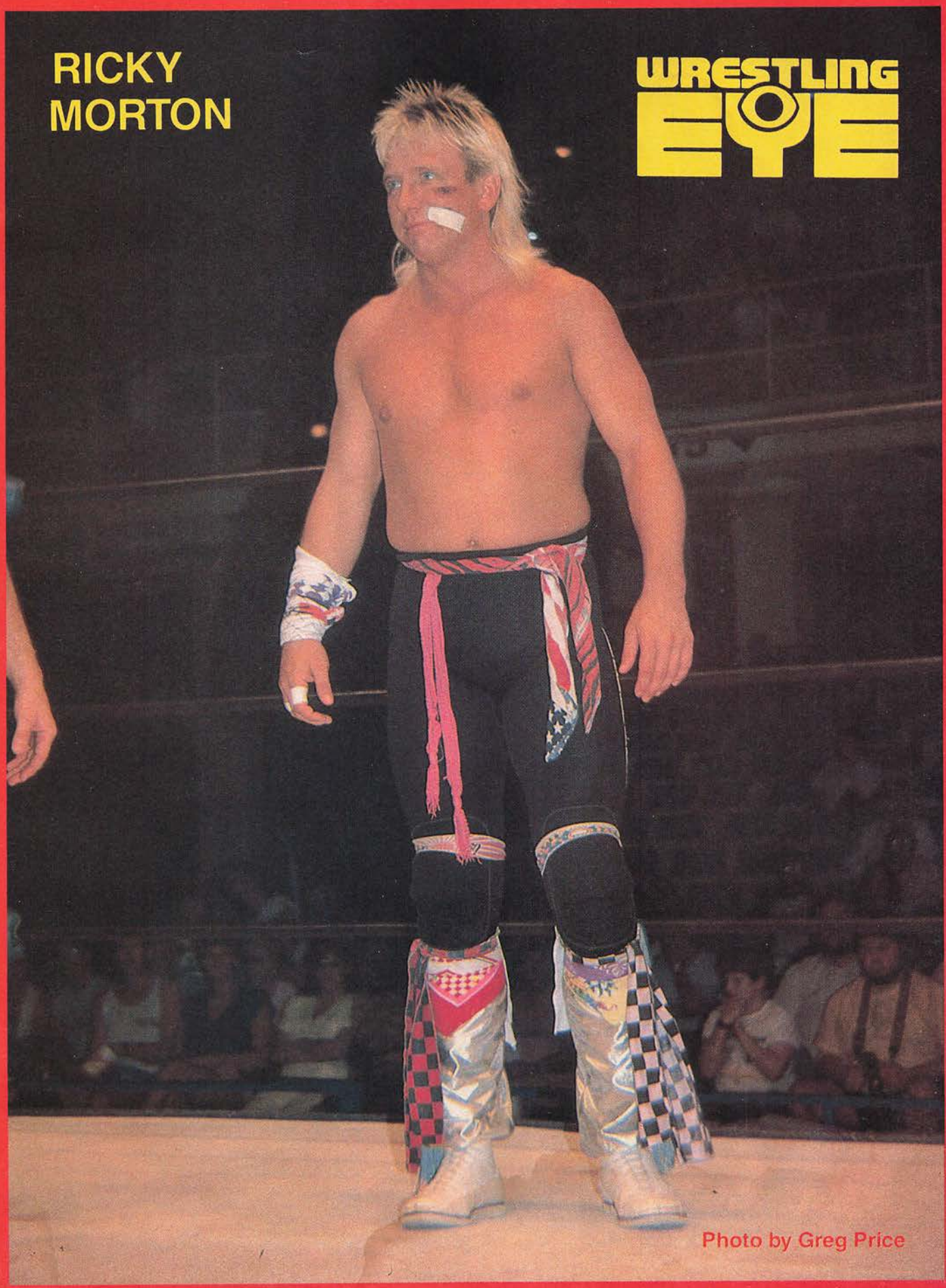

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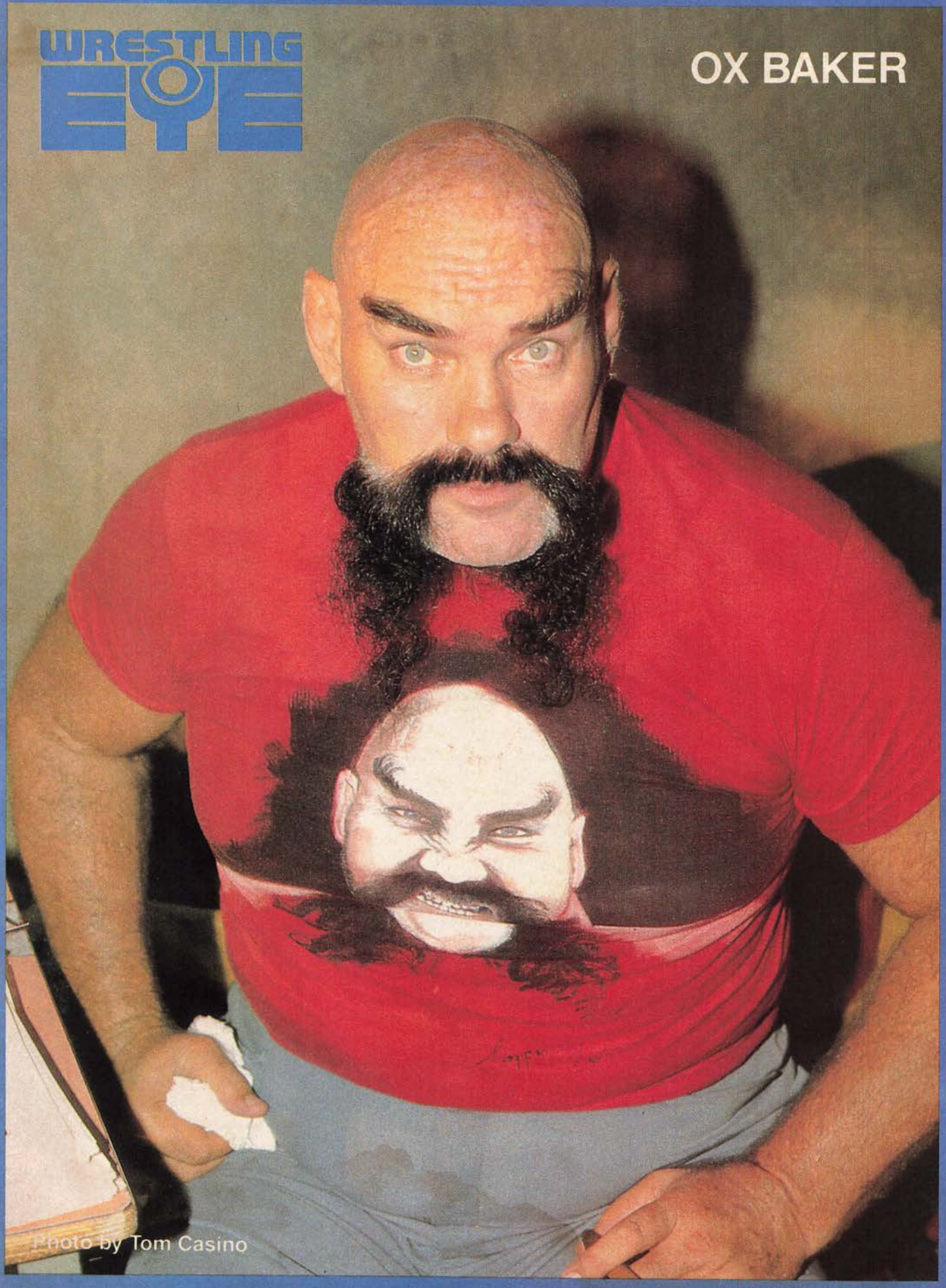

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WRESTLING EYE

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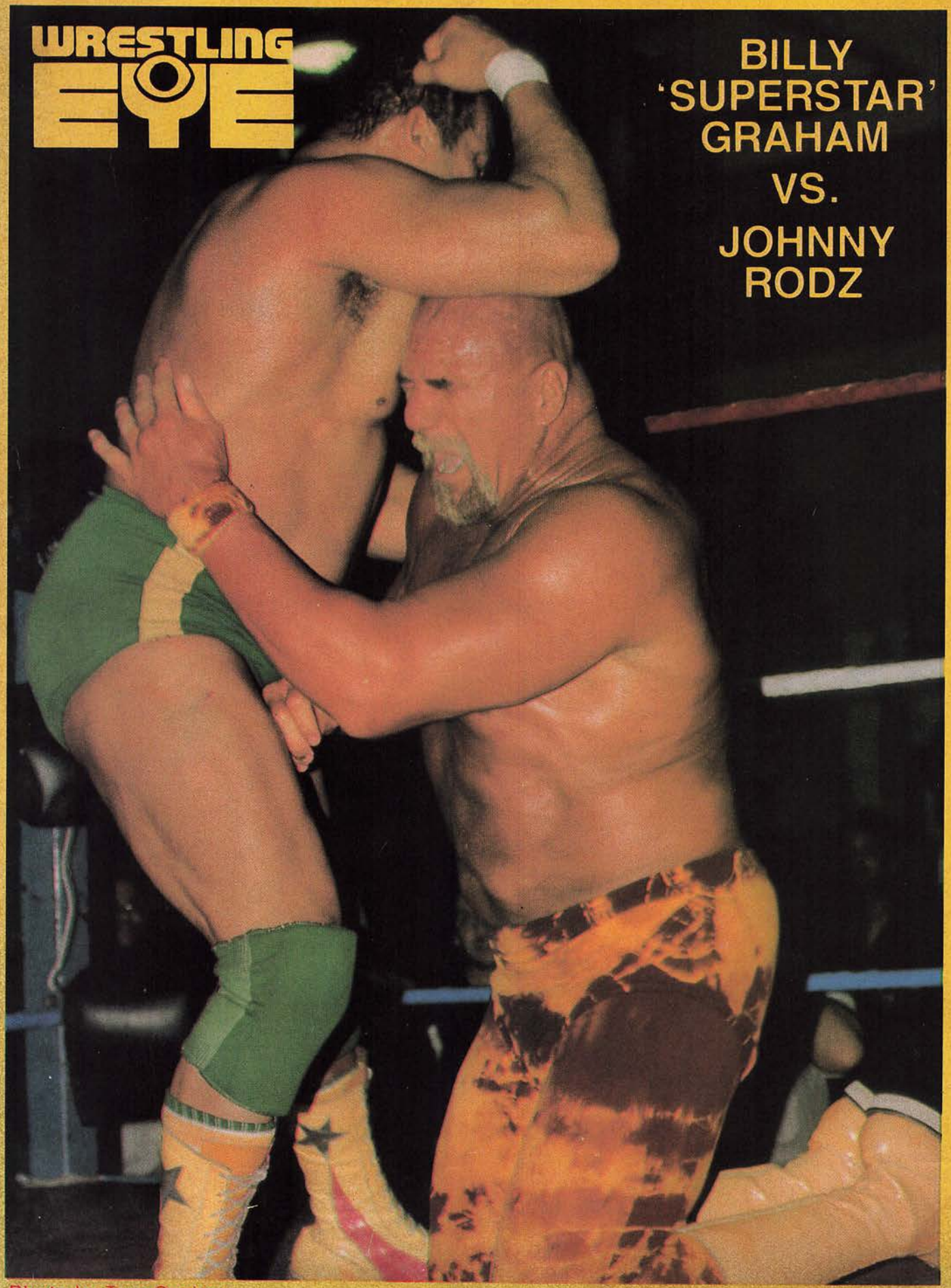

Photo by Tom Casino

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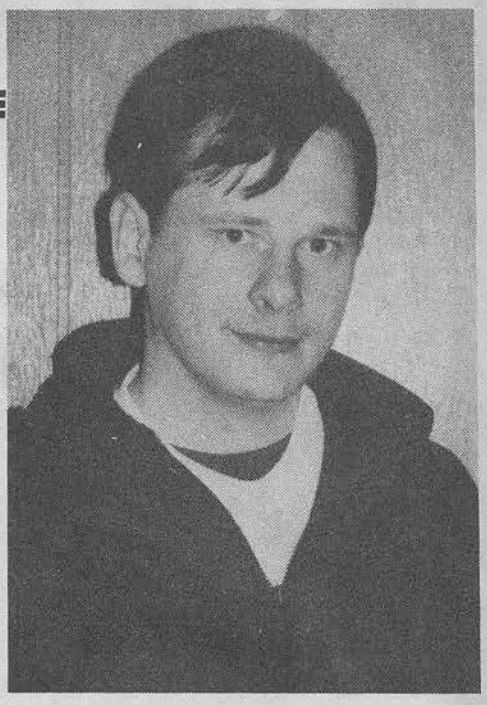


EDITORIAL

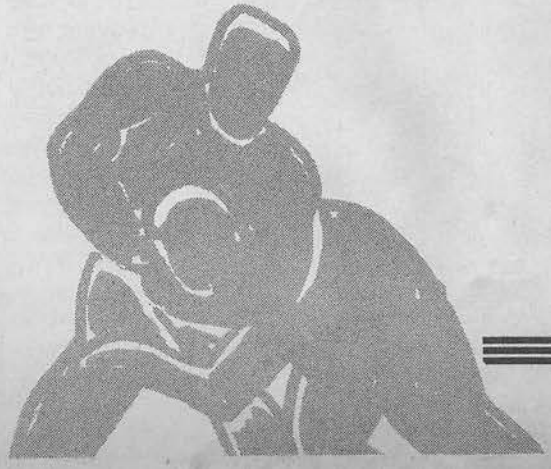
PRO WRESTLING—SPORT OR ENTERTAINMENT?

Some wrestling fans are tired of all the gimmicks used by wrestlers to attract attention to themselves. These fans enjoy wrestling as much as anyone else in the arena. The only difference between them and other fans is that they're upset with the showmanship. To them, the gimmicks are becoming more and more important (not to mention more dangerous) than the actual wrestlers and the wrestling. Easy for them to criticize, but what about the wrestlers, themselves? Do you think it's simple for a wrestler to climb to the top of a tough profession like pro wrestling? Do they think some promoter just selects someone to be the next champ? No way. A wrestler must be an athlete and a showman equally. He must beat his opponent, but at the same time he must keep the fans coming back for more.

When you see a wrestler relying on schtick, look past the show business and see the wrestler beneath it all. There isn't a wrestler today who can be considered anything but a fine athlete. To be a professional wrestler, he must be the best.

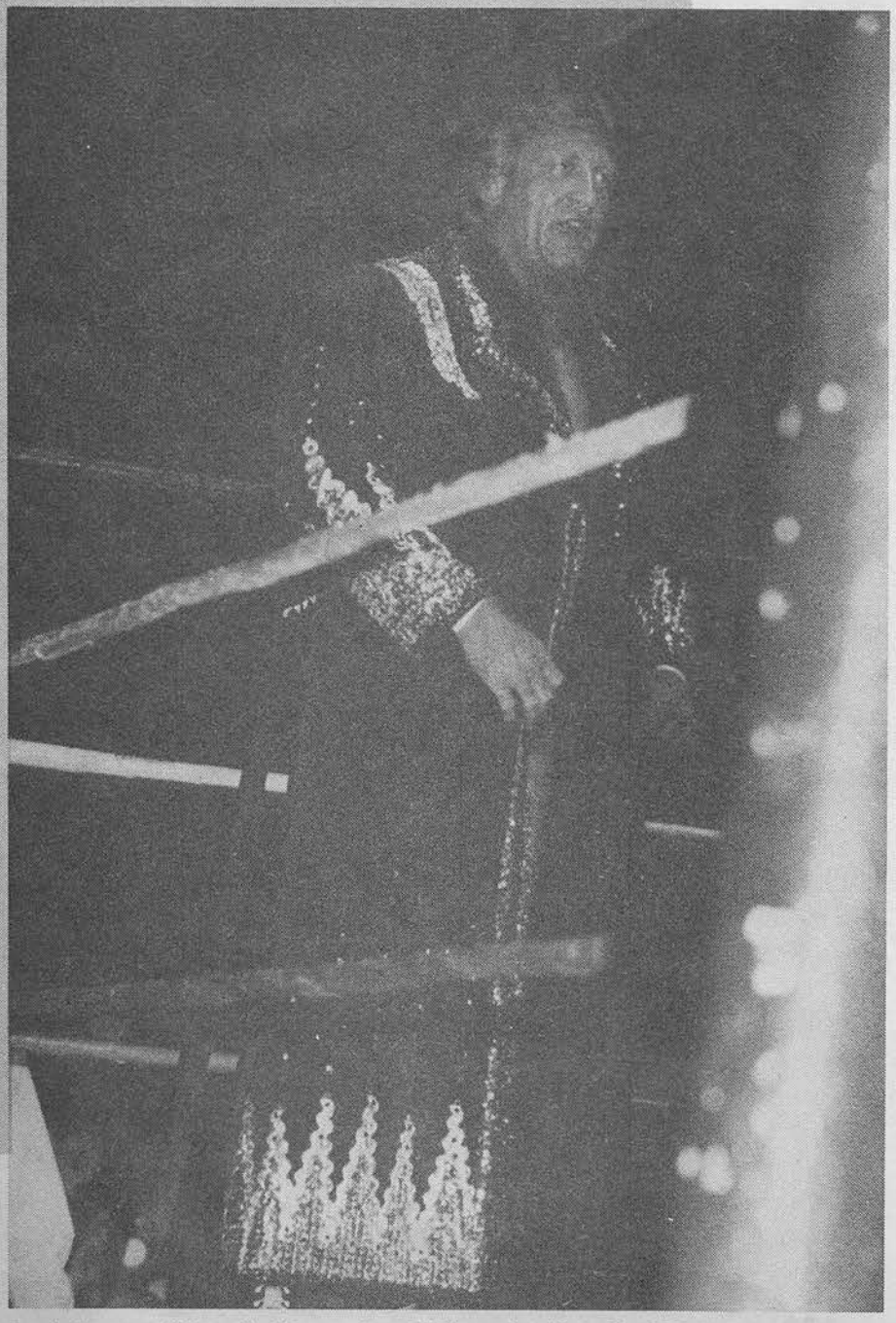
Mike

Mike Bellew
Editor



WRESTLING EYE'S FORECAST FOR '87

OUR WRESTLING PREDICTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR



Randy Savage will drop the Intercontinental Championship to Paul 'Mr. Wonderful' Orndorff.

Predicting the future of pro wrestling is like forecasting the next day's weather. You don't know you're right until it happens, and then it's too late. Based on inside rumors and current ring trends, here are WRESTLING EYE's long-term guesses for next year. Keep in mind, these events could happen on January One or on the last day of 1987. Either way, the Opera ain't over till the Fat Lady sings:

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION (WWF)

The momentum will continue into next year. McMahon's Monster will grow and grow, and may yet become the sole wrestling alliance in the United States...The Steady SRO crowds in Toronto, Detroit, Phoenix and Denver will give the WWF an even stronger foothold in the AWA-NWA heartlands... Bad knees or not, Hulk Hogan is going to be world champ for a long time to come. His name alone can fill arenas, with or without a decent undercard... Tito Santana, Mike Rotundo, Harley Race, Danny Spivey, Bob Orton Jr. and Jake 'The Snake' Roberts will all be moving on... Dory and Jimmy Jack Funk will probably go back to Texas. Dory and Terry may work behind the scenes for the WWF in the Southwest... The Bulldogs will be ex-world tag team champions even before '87... The Killer Bees won't stay tag team champs for long...' The 'Macho Man' may hold the tag team belts with partner Hercules Hernandez ... Liz Sliwa (who wrestled as the Spider Lady last year) will dethrone

world champ Moolah... Gene Okerlund will mouth-off to the wrong wrestler and will be hospitalized... Scott Hall will not be in the WWF... Bruiser Brody will challenge Hulk Hogan...

HULK HOGAN

1987 will see an overall improvement in Hogan's wrestling skills. His matches may go more than the average five-minute mark... To ease his individual schedule of title defenses, Hogan may even win the tag team title. This will allow him to depend on a partner in matches where his heavyweight crown isn't on the line... Once again, Randy Savage will be Hogan's toughest challenger.

RANDY 'MACHO MAN' SAVAGE

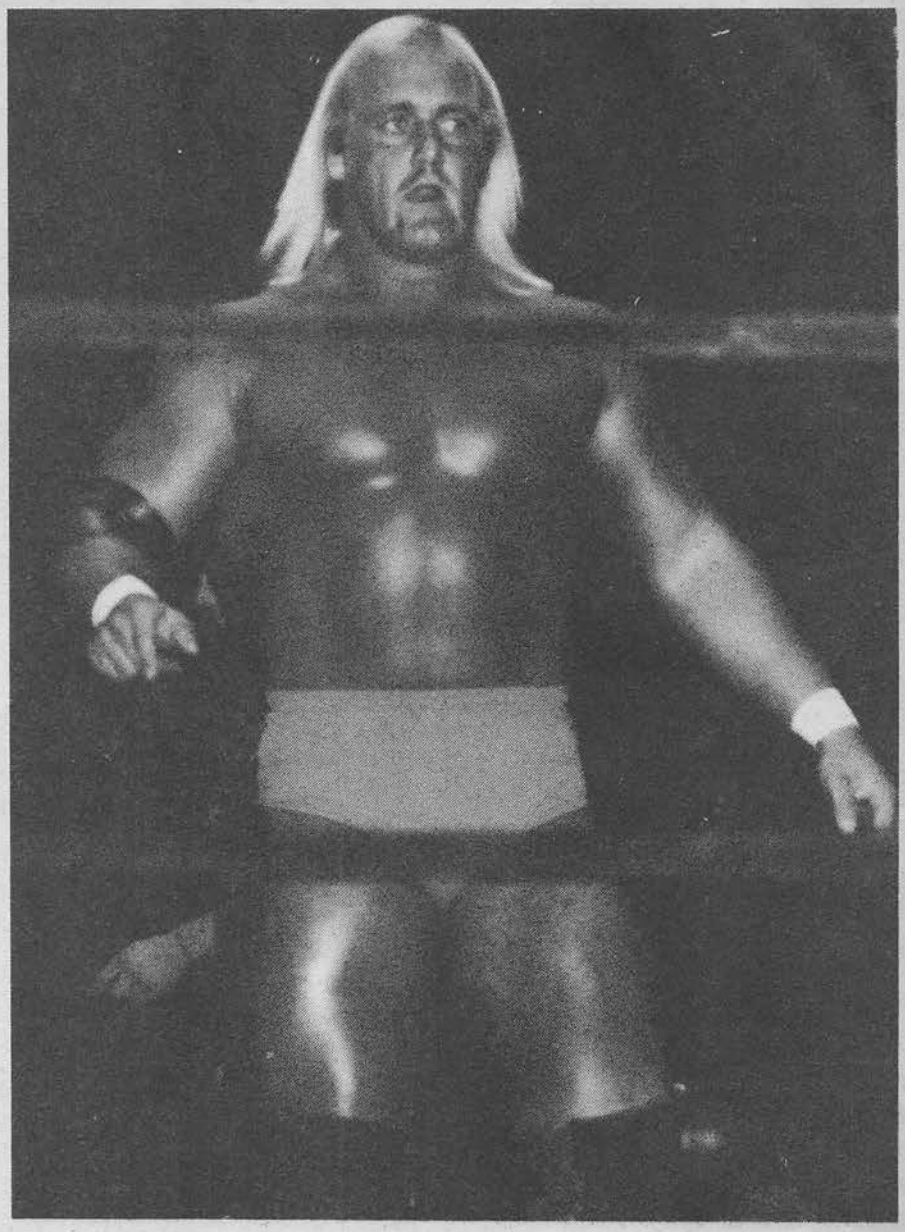
Savage's future depends on Hulk Hogan's future. If, for any reason, Hulk is injured or drops his world belt, expect Macho Madness to quickly replace Hulk-A-Mania.

THE BRITISH BULLDOGS

The Dynamite Kid's injury is serious enough to force the team out of the WWF... It's doubtful whether or not the Bulldogs will even be champs at the start of 1987.

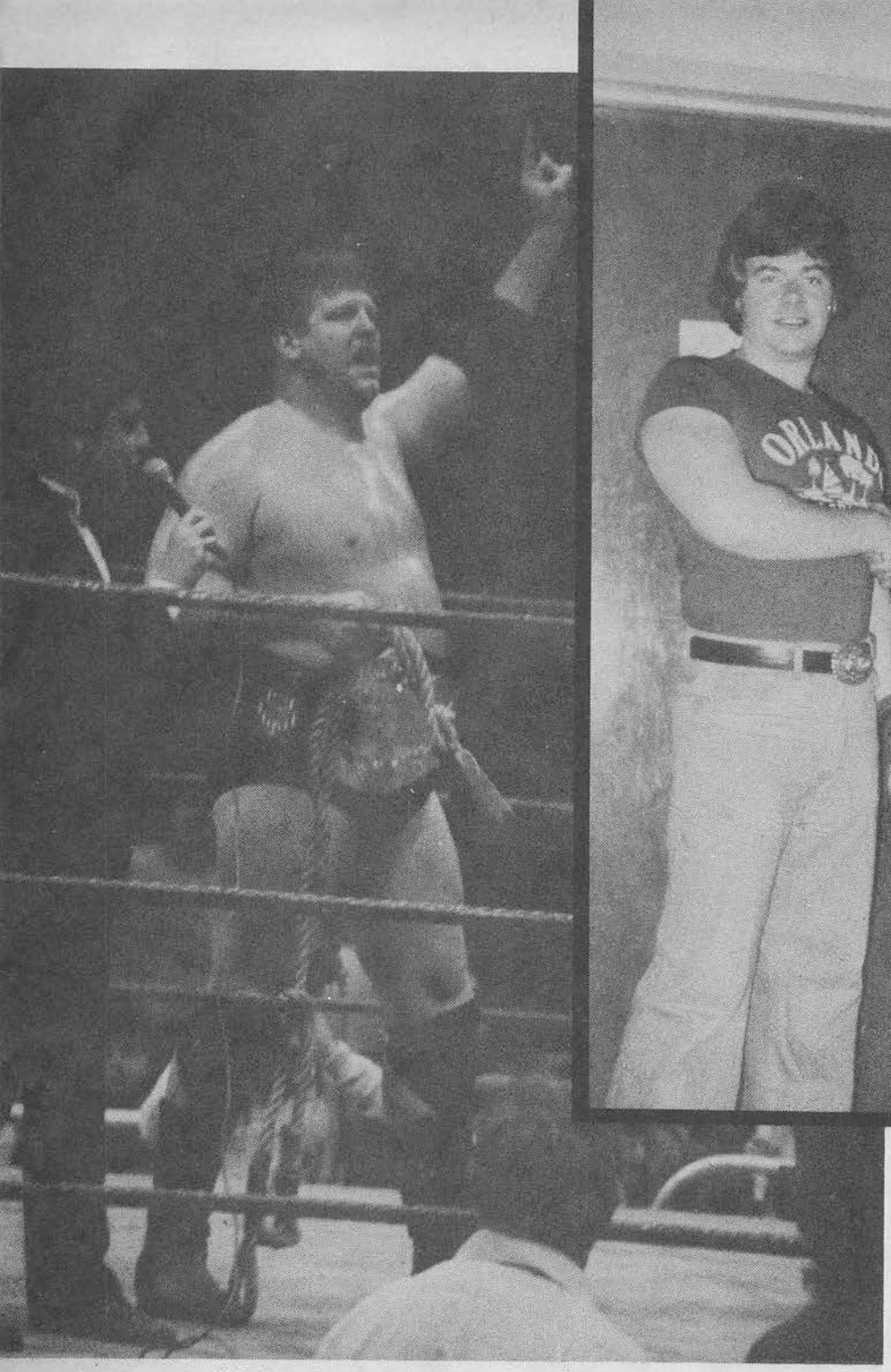
AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION (AWA)

Scott Hall will definitely win the AWA world belt... Buddy Rose and Doug Sommers will drop the tag team honors to Stan Lane and Steve Keirn... Sgt. Slaughter will depart for Hollywood, but will end-up in the NWA... Buddy Rose, with help from valet Sherri Martel, will grab the Americas Championship, and feud with Nick Bockwinkel... The AWA Ladies Championship will be retired due to the lack of fan interest... Marty Janetty, Brad Rheingans and John 'The Barbarian' Nord will all go to the NWA... 'Earthquake' Ferris may get a big push as a main eventer... Jerry Blackwell will return as a manager ... Bruiser Brody will be the #1 challenger for Hall's title. However, in the long run, Brody and Hansen will both leave for Japan...

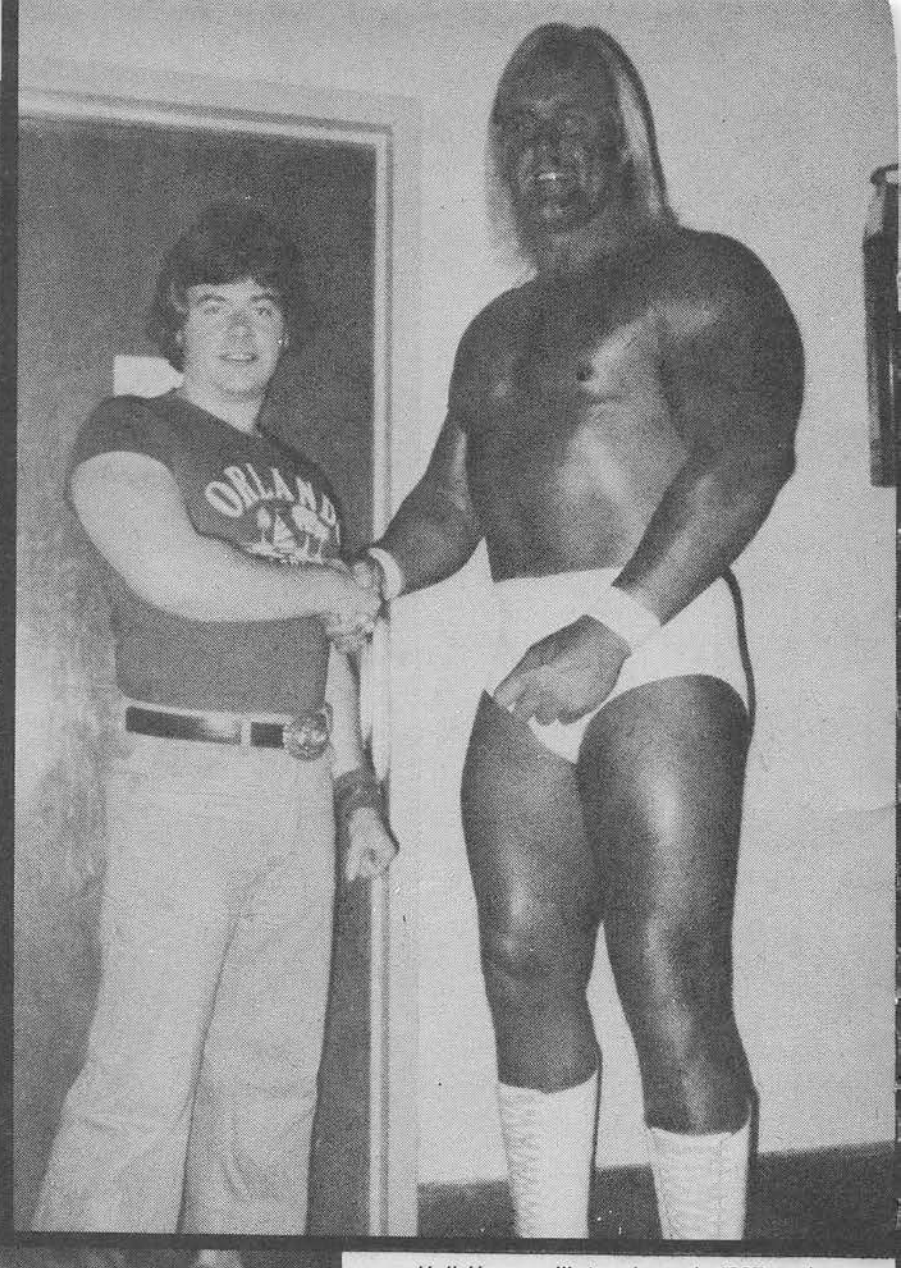


HULK HOGAN

Jake 'The Snake' Roberts will not win the WWF heavyweight championship. (Photo by Carmine DeSpirito)



Stan Hansen's AWA championship belt will be refitted for the waist of Scott Hall. Or so we predict.



Hulk Hogan will stay champ in 1987, and there'll be an improvement in his wrestling skills. (Seen here, Hogan and Associate Editor Mike O'Hara)

WRESTLING EYE

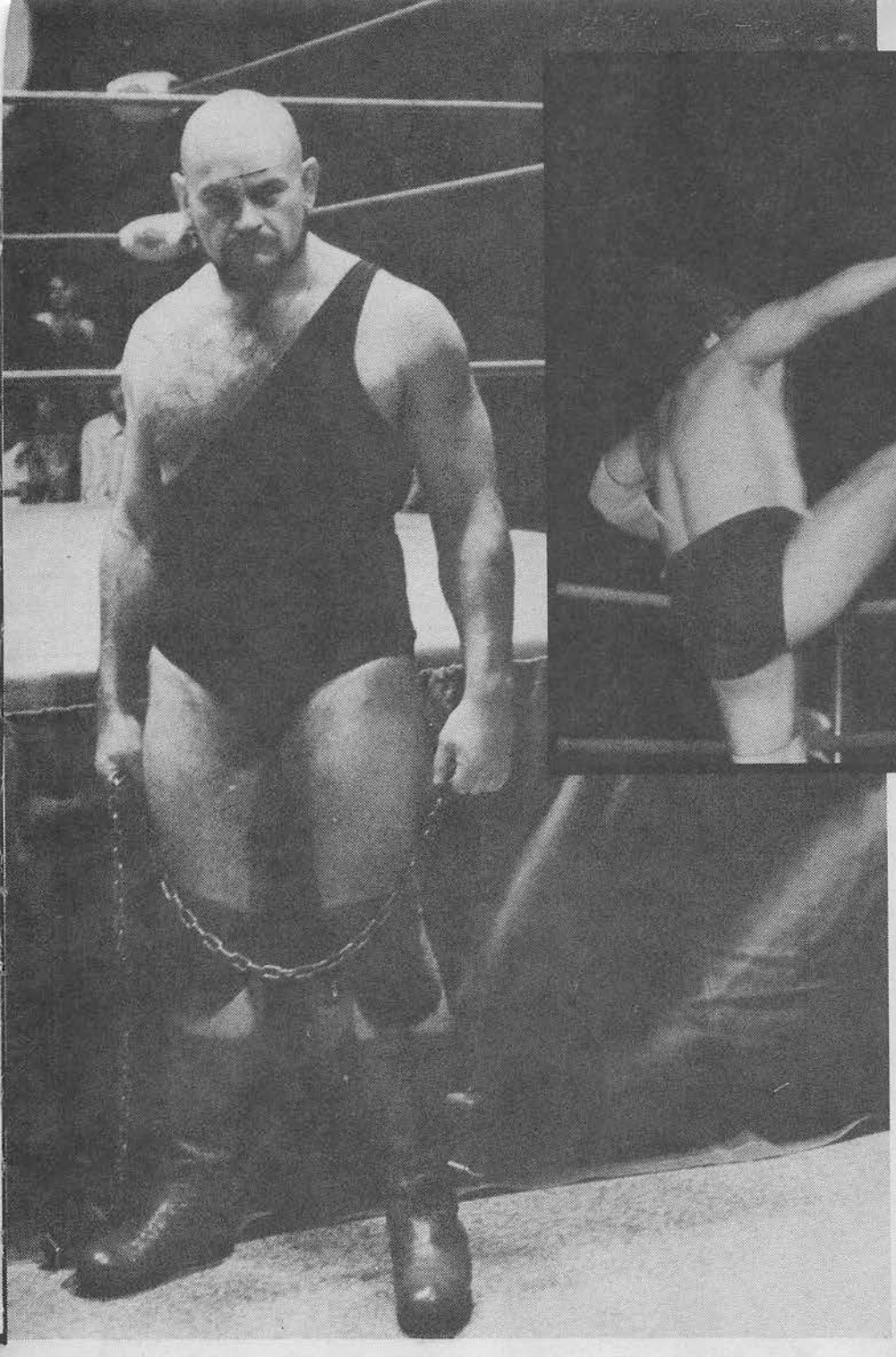
The Blade Runners will challenge Lane and Keirn in '87... There will be a big exchange of talent between the AWA and the World Class Group...
Kerry Von Erich may even wrestle Scott Hall for the AWA belt...
Leone White will feud with Larry Zbyszko... Despite the disbanding of the PRO USA tour, the AWA will do well in cities like Denver, Niagara Falls, Oakland and Minneapolis.

NICK BOCKWINKEL

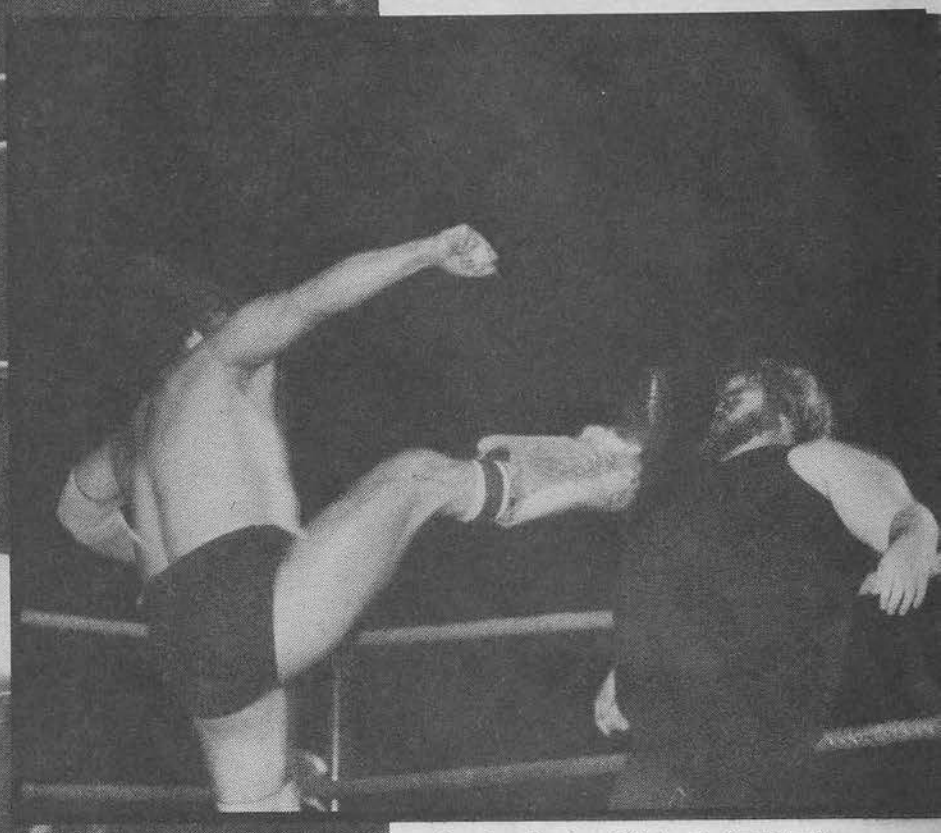
Nick will have a brief reign, and will probably lose the belt to none other than Scott Hall. For Bockwinkel, it was a mistake from the start to accept a belt he didn't win in the ring... If Nick doesn't lose to Hall, then will likely retire in a matter of months. As clever as he is, his body will not stand-up to the rigors of being world champ.

LARRY ZBYSZKO

All signs point to Larry leaving the AWA for either the NWA or WWF... The man is too talented for the unworthy likes of Leon White and Buddy Rose. Not even the lure of the Americas belt will keep him in the AWA... Since the WWF is stuffed to the rafters with heels, Larry is possibly NWA bound.



Ivan Koloff may retire, and the Koloffs will possibly either disband or go to the WCW.



Crusher Blackwell (here, vs. Brody) will return as a manager for 'Earthquake' Ferris.

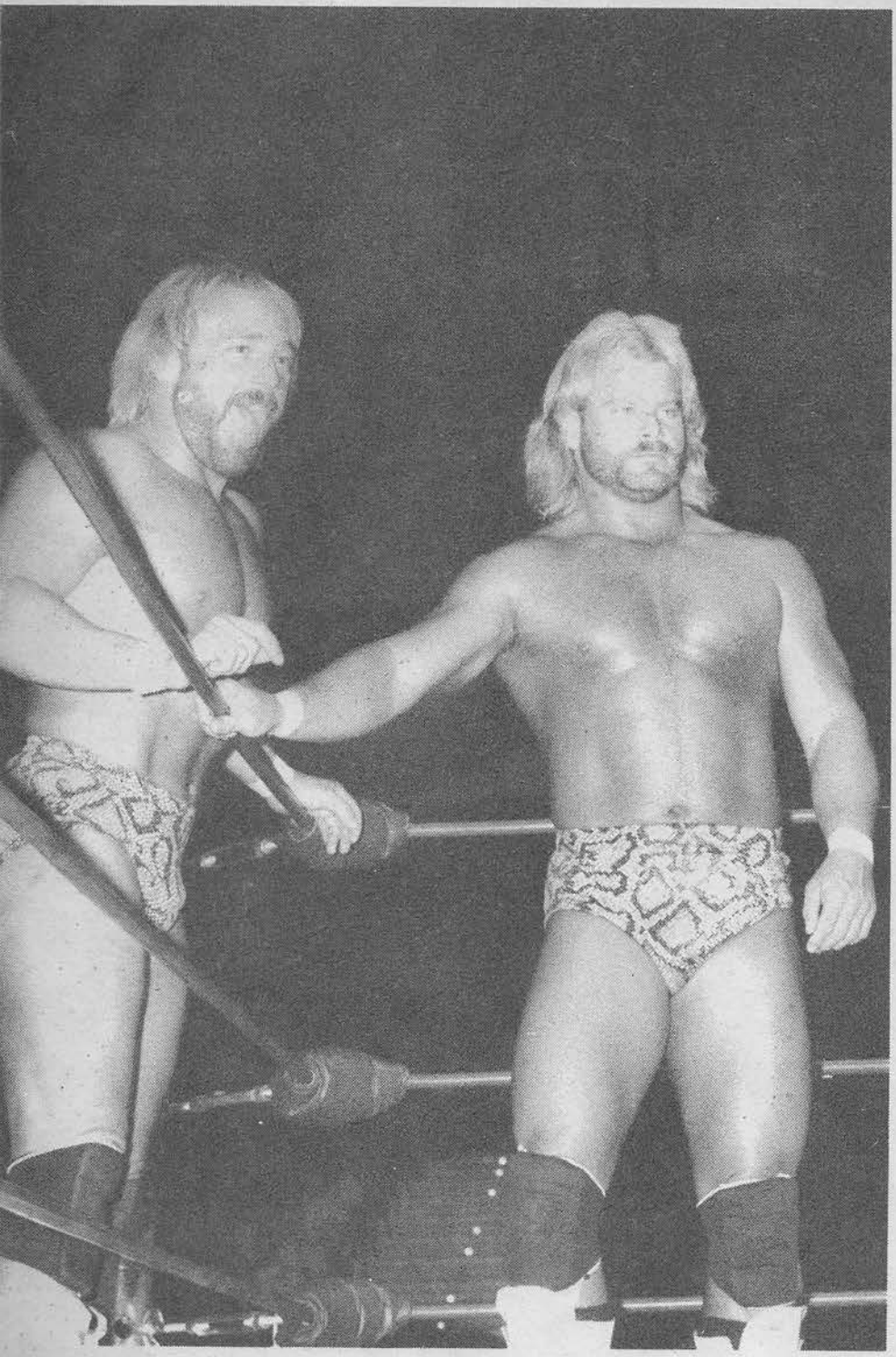
WRESTLING EYE

SGT. SLAUGHTER

Having brawled for it all against Hansen there isn't much left in the AWA for Slaughter... He is a free agent and has a toy deal with GI JOE... On the whole, wrestling probably doesn't even interest The Sarge anymore... Good chance Slaughter will take a stab at Hollywood, then go to the NWA against the Koloffs.

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE (NWA)

The big news in the NWA for '87 will be the possible return of the Von Erichs... Since both groups are competing in Dallas, it's only a matter of time before one yields to the other. As part of the return, Fritz will demand a no-disqualification match between Kevin Von Erich and Ric Flair... Kevin may even win the NWA heavyweight title... World Class will continue to recognize Rick Rude as their world champ, but only in Texas... If Kevin doesn't take the belt, expect Road Warrior Hawk to do the trick ... Ricky Morton will feud with 'Bad' Robert Gibson... Ronnie and Jimmy Garvin will upset the Midnight Express for the world tag team titles... Ivan Koloff and Dusty Rhodes will retire just months apart... 'Good' Ric Flair will feud with Tully Blanchard for the National championship... The Freebirds might come in, replacing the Koloffs, who will disband... Baby Doll will take some time off in '87... Harley Race will tag team with Ric Flair... SRO crowds for the NWA will continue in Dallas, Birmingham and Cleveland... Florida will boom.



Steve Keirn and Stan Lane will be the AWA tag team champions in '87. That's our guess. (Photo by Bill Otten)

WRESTLING EYE

THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

The boys are living on borrowed time. Ronnie and Jimmy Garvin will easily beat the current tag team champions... Precious will beat the heck out of Jimmy Cornette... A battle of spray can vs. tennis racket... The Express will possibly express over to the UWF or World Class.

THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

Ricky and Robert are heading for break-up city... The lure of an individual world title has already sent Ricky Morton in a different direction... Expect Robert Gibson to go 'bad,' having been ignored for so long... The feud between them might be the ugliest in ring history.

WORLD CLASS WRESTLING (WCCW)

Even if the Von Erichs return to the NWA, this will not affect the WCCW from acting very independent. The group will not disband... With the influx of talent from the NWA and AWA, record attendances will be set in Ft. Worth and Dallas ... Kerry Von Erich will take the world belt from Rick Rude... Kevin Von Erich will win the NWA world belt... Mike and Lance Von Erich will be the new American Tag Team Champions... Chris Adams, John Tatum and Missy Hyatt will go to the NWA... The Koloffs will come in to the WCCW, and challenge Lance and Mike... Bruiser Brody will possibly leave after a dispute over his match with world champ Rick Rude...

... King Parson and Butch Reed will go 'bad' and form an impressive tag team combination ... More talent in from England and South Africa.

UNIVERSAL WRESTLING FEDERATION (UWF)

Ted DiBiase or Steve 'Dr. Death' Williams will take the UWF title... The Fantastics will drop their tag team championship to the Midnight Express, who will come in from the NWA... The Sheepherders are going to return to their native New Zealand for most of '87, because New Zealand is a nuclear free country... Dark Journey will be the UWF's first ladies champion... Terry Taylor will go to the NWA, and Eddie Gilbert will go to the WWF... Buzz Sawyer will feud with brother Brett Sawyer ... SRO crowds will continue in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Jackson ... Promoter Bill Watts will unretire ... Greg Valentine will come in.

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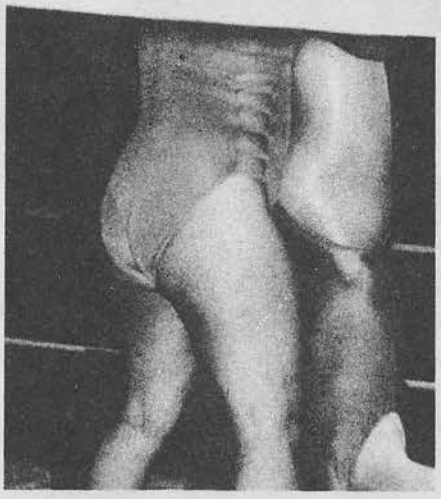

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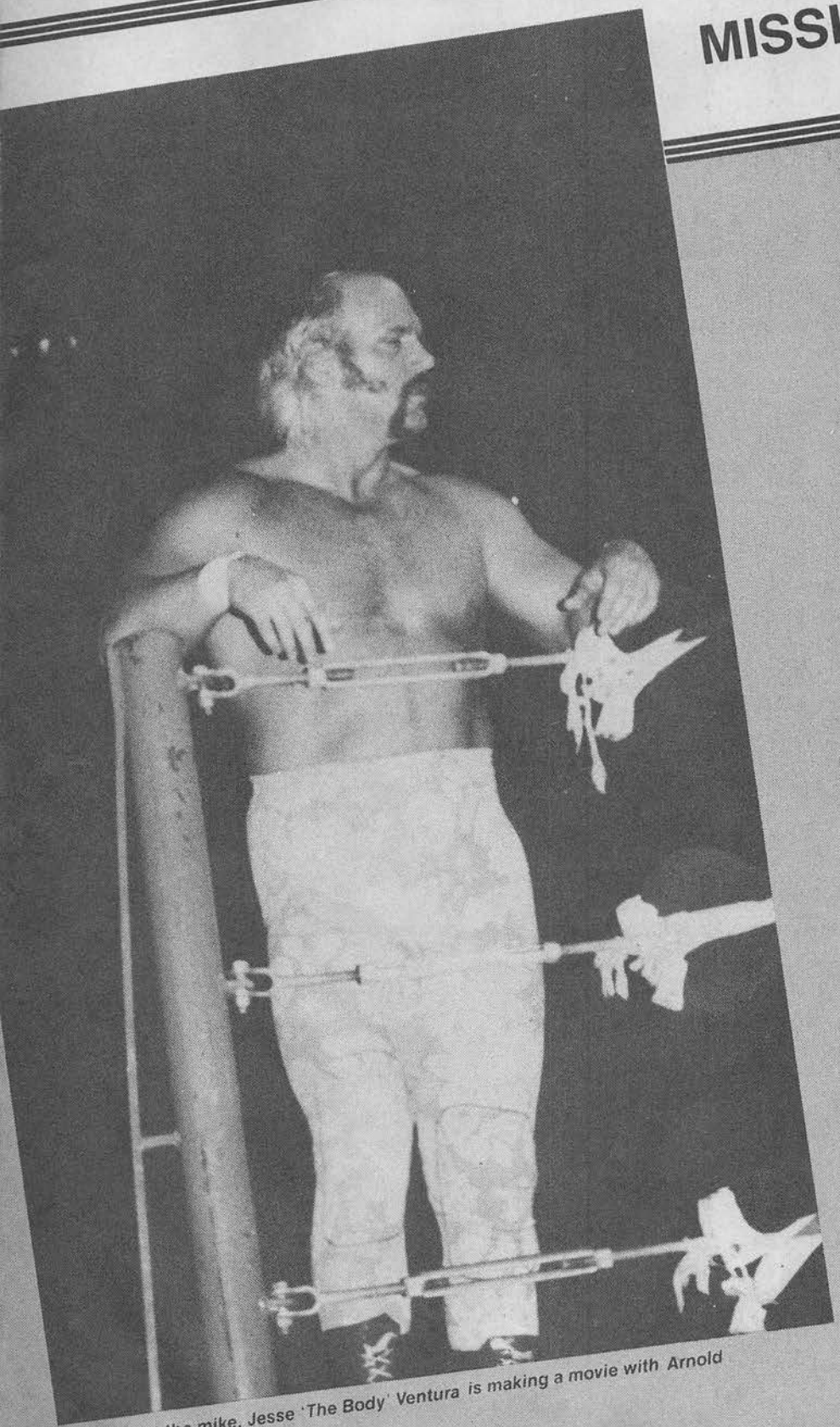


Missing at the mike. Jesse 'The Body' Ventura is making a movie with Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Photos by Carmine DeSpirito

Are you missing Jesse 'The Body' Ventura as much as everyone else is? Even the candid Bobby 'The Brain' Heenan is just a pale imitation of Big Jesse at the mike. Jesse was always right on the mark when it came to calling a match. His own experience as a box office star in both the AWA and WWF gave him keen insight into wrestling strategies. Even handicapped with the predictable Gorilla Monsoon or the all-too-cheerful Alfred Hayes, the wrestler-turned-announcer was unbeatable. It was only a matter of time before Hollywood finally noticed what they were missing.

Movie star, and fellow body-builder, Arnold Schwarzenegger begged Jesse to co-star with him in his latest movie 'Predator.' What else could Ventura do? He was in Hollywood anyway to handle the post-WRESTLE MANIA 2 press conference. At the present time, Jesse is wrapping up the final cut of his first movie. He has followed in the footsteps of Capt. Lou and 'Rowdy' Roddy Piper, who have also completed their first motion pictures. Unlike Piper's BODY SLAM or Capt. Lou's WISEGUYS, Ventura's movie is a serious action-adventure set in Central America.

This is not Jesse's first association with the glitter and glamor of show business. In 1978, while recuperating from a knee injury, he took on the well-paid job of body-guarding rock groups like Bob 'Against The Wind Seger, the Grateful Dead and Rush. Then came his own recording of 'Roadhouse Blues' and 'Sympathy For The Devil.' Both tunes are available through Twin Tone Records (2541 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404). Ventura

described his style of music as 'original'. "I like music that has something behind it, that does something for people. Bold, strong, powerful rock. A band like Duran Duran does nothing for me. Obviously they have talent, but their music is kind of swishy."

"This is not garbage rock," said Jesse in the same interview. "This is legitimate rock 'n' roll. Of course, I don't have the range in my voice of a Robert Plant, but I'm the best-built rock star. David Lee Roth doesn't even come close. His little buggy-whip arms could never match my 21-inchers. How many other rock 'n' rollers have a 51-inch chest?"

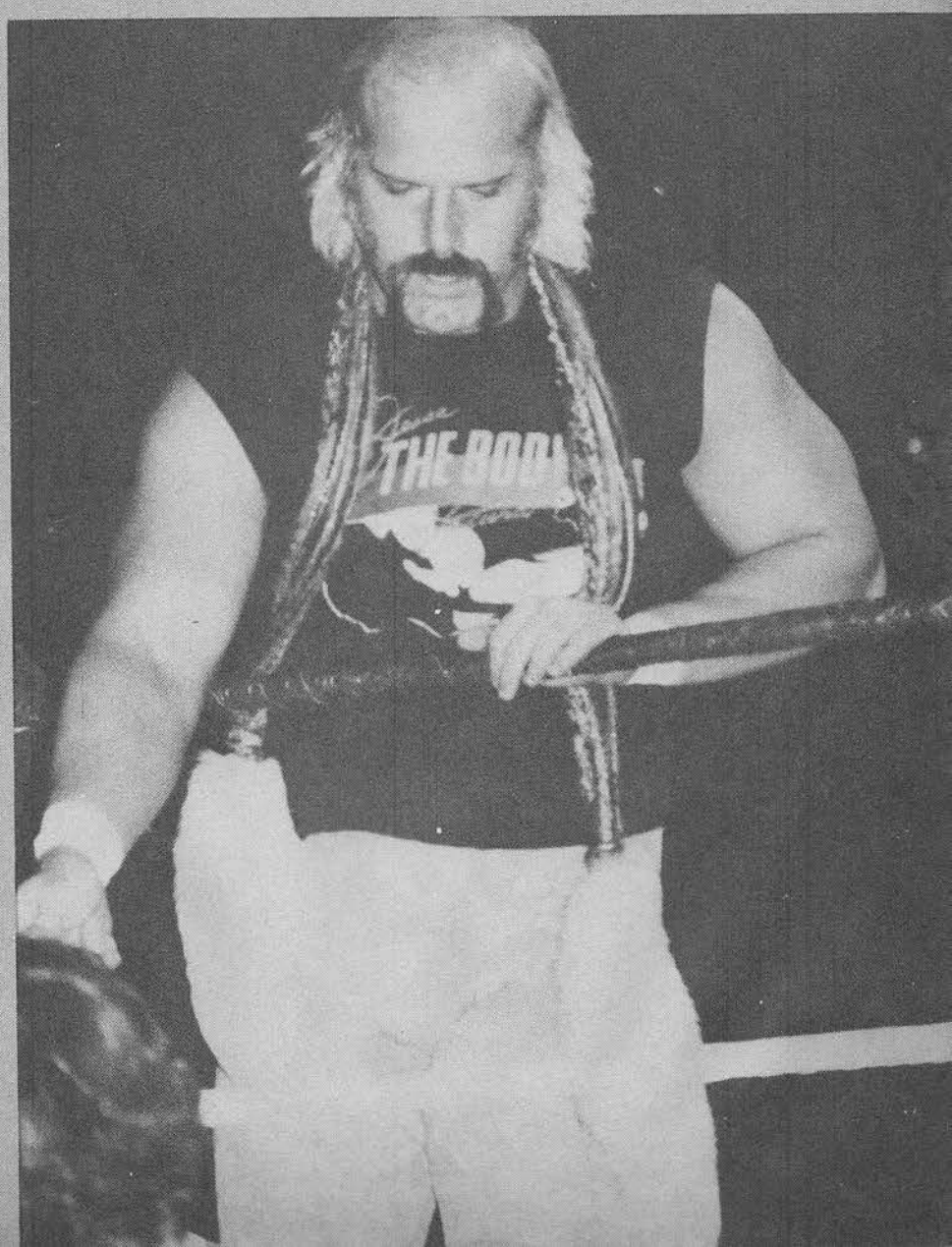
At 33, Jesse Ventura has done it all. He served his country in Viet Nam and is proud of that. "I was a midwestern boy who wanted to stop communism. I learned guerrilla combat, demolition and behind-the-scenes stuff like that. Whatever challenge comes up—if it's in wrestling or rock 'n' roll—in Viet Nam it was tougher."

After Nam, Jesse returned to his hometown of Minneapolis. He played football at junior college, but couldn't relate to the wet-behind-the-ears attitude of the rest of the student body. "I had played the ultimate game: War." Ventura came in to fill the gaps in Lord Alfred Hayes' schedule. In his first match in Wichita, Kansas (1975), he was disqualified for tossing Omar Atlas out of the ring. "I had no amateur background, so I learned to break the rules to win. Viet Nam taught me how to be treacherous," says Jesse.

The AWA showcased Ventura's skills in the ring; the WWF highlighted his wit and wisdom. Hosting the 'Body Shop' segment or working alongside McMahon or Monsoon, Ventura was a positive find. He is unequalled in style and class. A real winner!

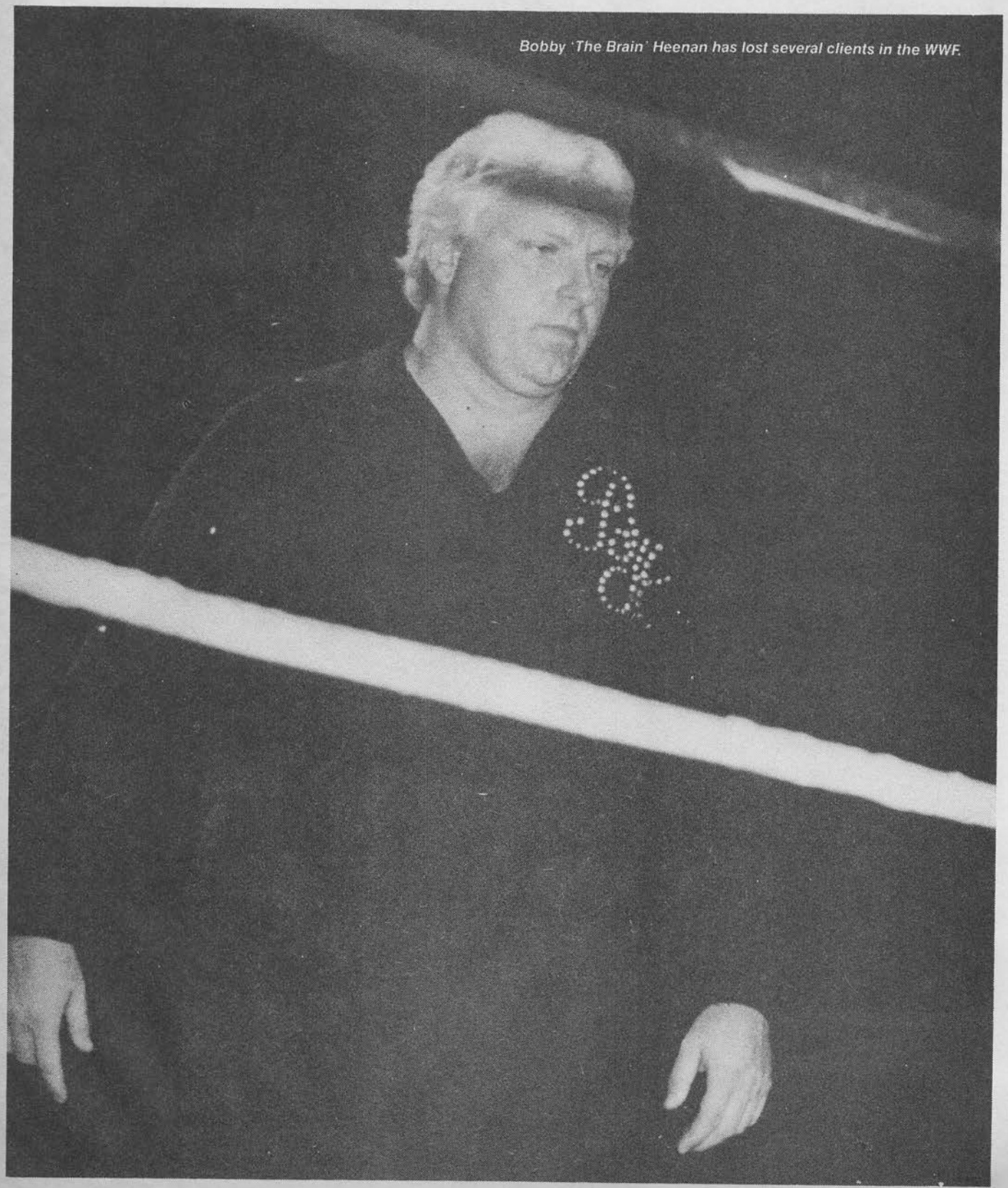
It's very possible that Jesse has grown tired of the pains and injuries associated with being a pro wrestler.

Ventura is talking more and more about becoming a rock star. His first record is available from Twin Tone Records

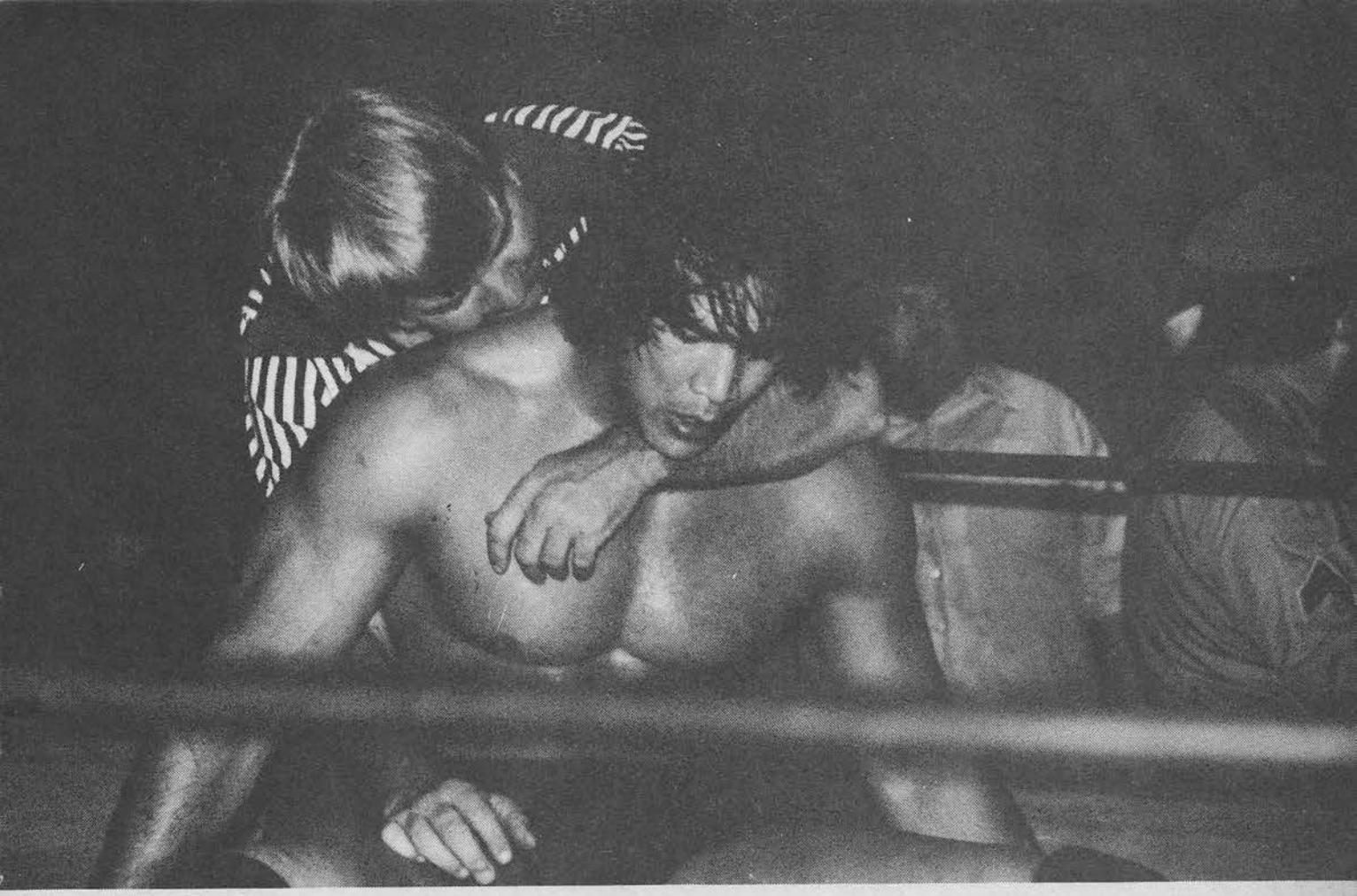


THE UNDERRATED STARS OF THE WWF

By Mike Bellew



Bobby 'The Brain' Heenan has lost several clients in the WWF.



Anywhere else, Ricky 'The Dragon' Steamboat would be at the very top. He has never won a major championship in his entire WWF stay.

The elite of the WWF are World Champ Hulk Hogan, Intercontinental Champ Randy 'Macho Man' Savage and the World Tag Team Champs—the British Bulldogs. Everyone else falls somewhere in between the top and the rocky bottom of preliminary boys and washed-up has-beens. Near the summit are the 'underrated great wrestlers'. These are the Rodney Dangerfields of the World Wide Wrestling Federation. Men who don't get the full credit they deserve. Oddly enough, the underrated stars were usually at the top of their leagues before being lured to the WWF for better money.

If they were to leave the WWF, and return to their starting points, they'd be back at the pinnacle of greatness in a matter of months.

RICKY 'THE DRAGON' STEAMBOAT

This WWF main eventer has never held a major championship in his entire stay. In the NWA, Steamboat was an impressive wrestler, holding both the United States Heavyweight Championship and co-holder of the world tag team belts. Yet, in the World of Hulk Hogan, he has hovered in the Limbo of the Lost. Physically, the Happy Hawaiian is the same person. He is cat-like quick, and the master of many punishing holds and takedowns. Don Muraco, Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, Greg 'The Hammer' Valentine and Randy 'Macho Man' Savage will all attest to his durability and strength.

Ricky started wrestling with his father in the NWA. He has family and friends in the Deep South, and maybe that's where Ricky belongs. He left the NWA when his friend Ric Flair won the Alliance's world championship from Harley Race. With his friend holding the ultimate honor, there was nowhere to go. He came to the WWF and immediately had the fans cheering him on to victory after victory. In spite of a successful win-loss record in the WWF, Ricky 'The Dragon' Steamboat is slipping.

Jake 'The Snake' Roberts took Steamboat completely offguard in 'Saturday Nite's Main Event.' He rammed the fan favorite face-first into the concrete floor faster than you could say: 'Watch out, Ricky.' The Ricky Steamboat we know from the NWA, would have seen that move coming from a mile away.

BOBBY 'THE BRAIN' HEENAN

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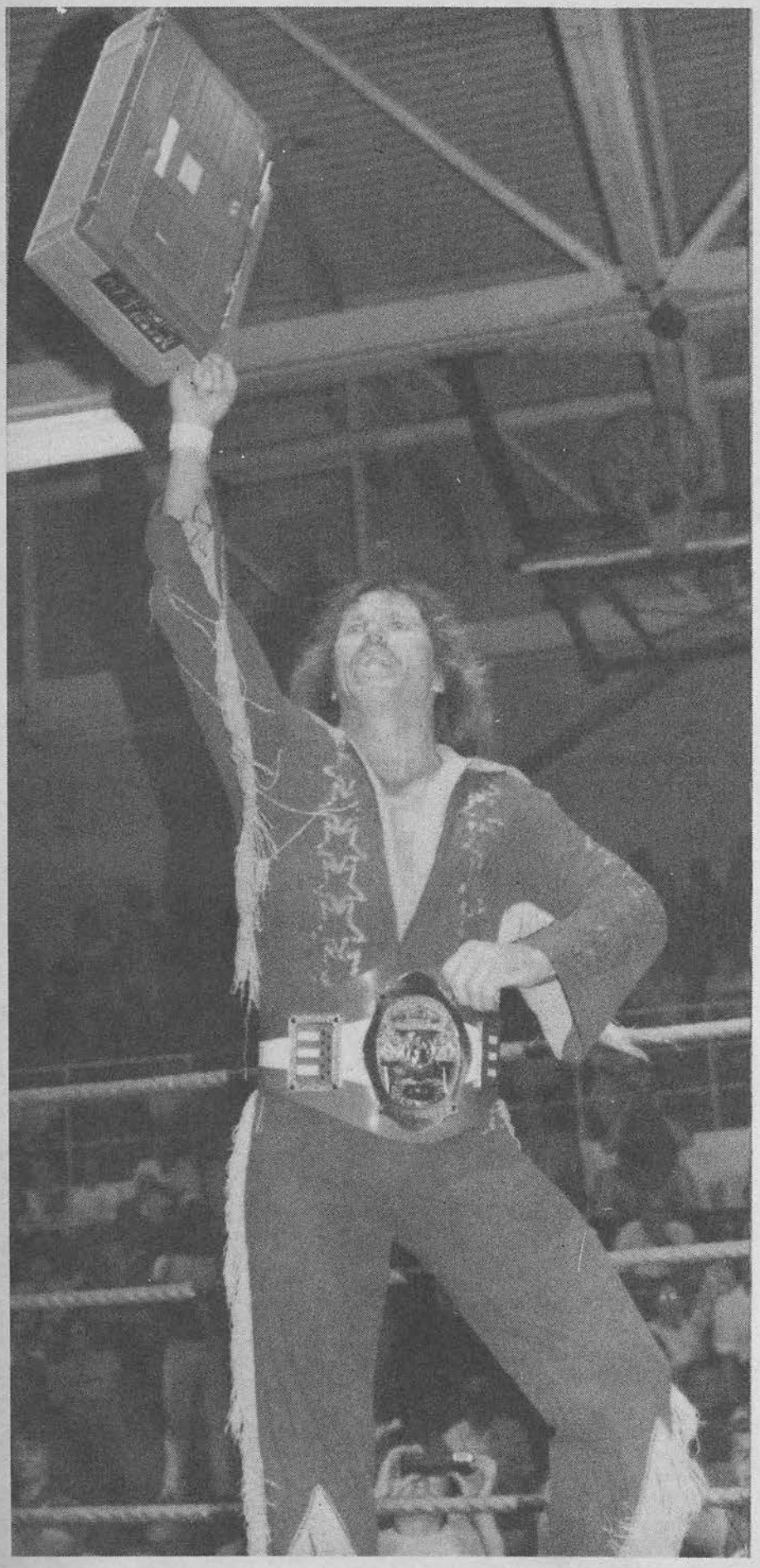

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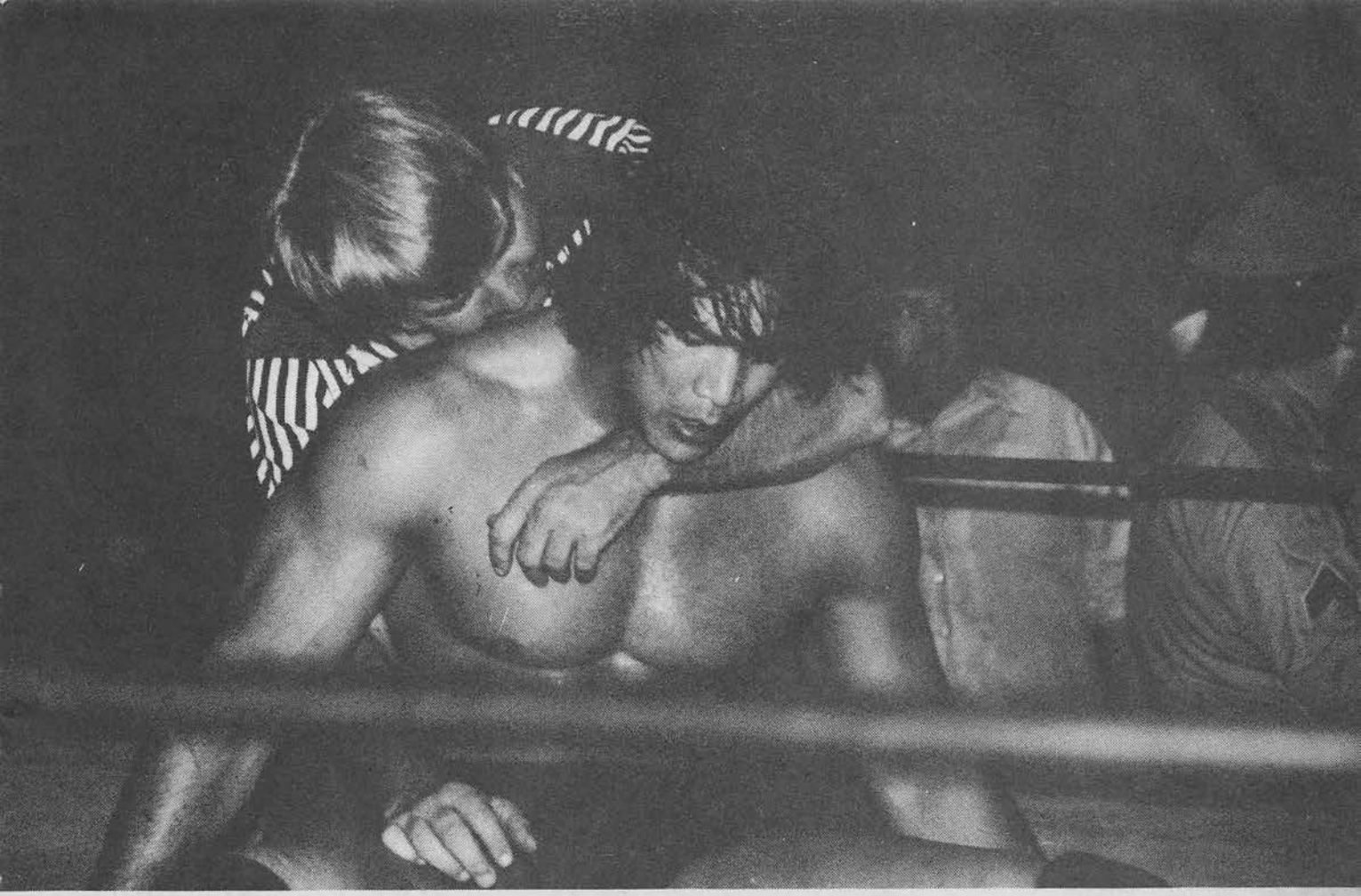

Anywhere else, Ricky 'The Dragon' Steamboat would be at the very top. He has never won a major championship in his entire WWF stay.

The elite of the WWF are World Champ Hulk Hogan, Intercontinental Champ Randy 'Macho Man' Savage and the World Tag Team Champs—the British Bulldogs. Everyone else falls somewhere in between the top and the rocky bottom of preliminary boys and washed-up has-beens. Near the summit are the 'underrated great wrestlers'. These are the Rodney Dangerfields of the World Wide Wrestling Federation. Men who don't get the full credit they deserve. Oddly enough, the underrated stars were usually at the top of their leagues before being lured to the WWF for better money.

If they were to leave the WWF, and return to their starting points, they'd be back at the pinnacle of greatness in a matter of months.

RICKY 'THE DRAGON' STEAMBOAT

This WWF main eventer has never held a major championship in his entire stay. In the NWA, Steamboat was an impressive wrestler, holding both the United States Heavyweight Championship and co-holder of the world tag team belts. Yet, in the World of Hulk Hogan, he has hovered in the Limbo of the Lost. Physically, the Happy Hawaiian is the same person. He is cat-like quick, and the master of many punishing holds and takedowns. Don Muraco, Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, Greg 'The Hammer' Valentine and Randy 'Macho Man' Savage will all attest to his durability and strength.

Ricky started wrestling with his father in the NWA. He has family and friends in the Deep South, and maybe that's where Ricky belongs. He left the NWA when his friend Ric Flair won the Alliance's world championship from Harley Race. With his friend holding the ultimate honor, there was nowhere to go. He came to the WWF and immediately had the fans cheering him on to victory after victory. In spite of a successful win-loss record in the WWF, Ricky 'The Dragon' Steamboat is slipping.

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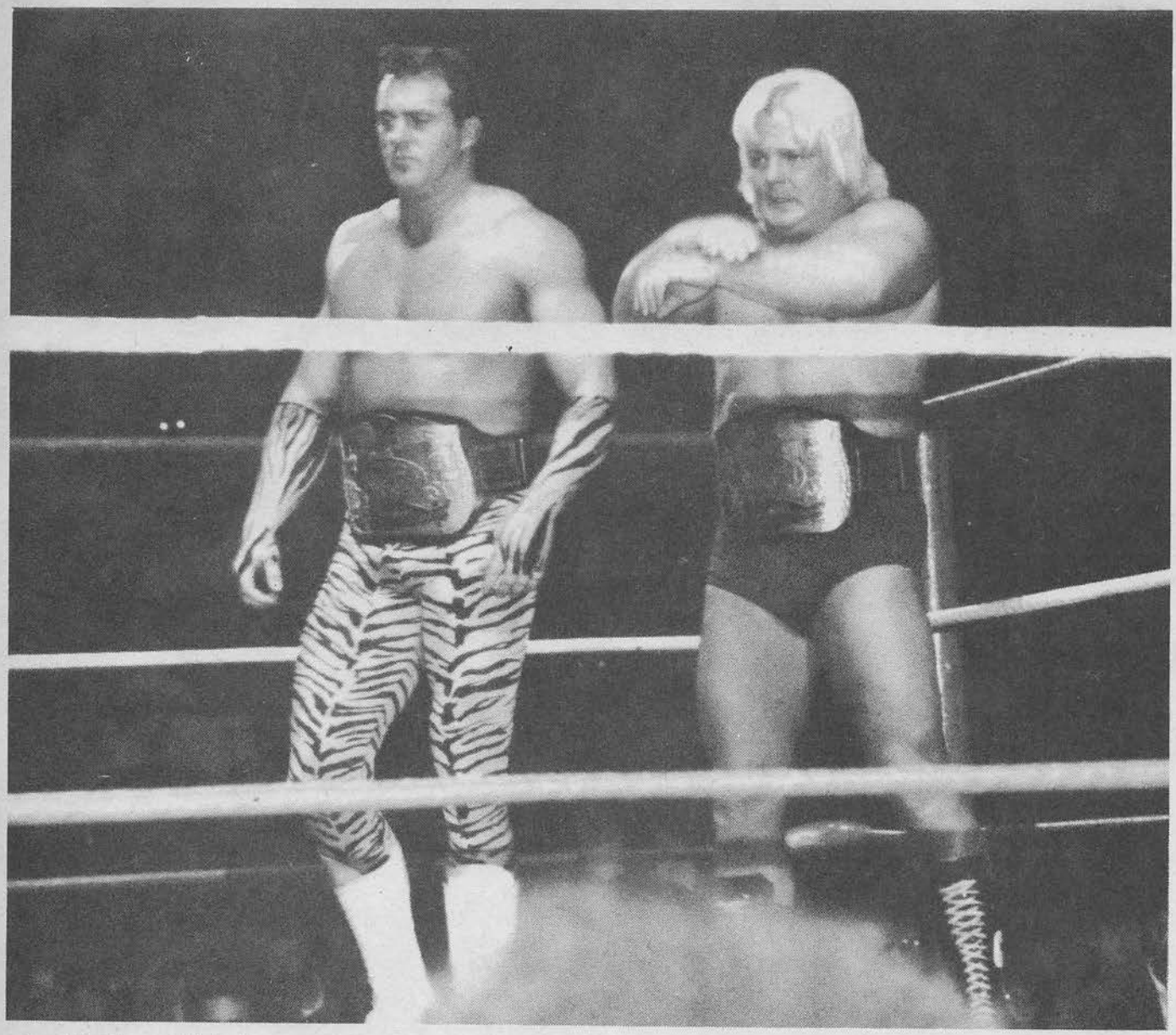


Greg 'The Hammer' Valentine has no place to go in the WWF, but down. He has done it all.

wasn't a question of who Heenan was managing. The real story was about who was lucky enough to be selected by 'The Brain.'

Instead, Bobby 'The Brain' turns into Bobby 'The Dummy.' The mastermind manager tries to guide the careers of the Missing Link, Paul 'Mr. Wonderful' Orndorff and Adrian Adonis. The Missing Link goes nowhere, and finally quits the WWF for the WCW. Paul 'Mr. Wonderful' Orndorff thinks Bobby's a jerk and goes 'good.' Adrian Adonis decides Heenan can't do a thing to help him and hires Jimmy Hart to manage his out-of-the-closet career. Now, 'Big' John Studd and King Kong Bundy are starting to fight among themselves. Before Heenan does any more damage, he'd better pack his bags and go home to the AWA.

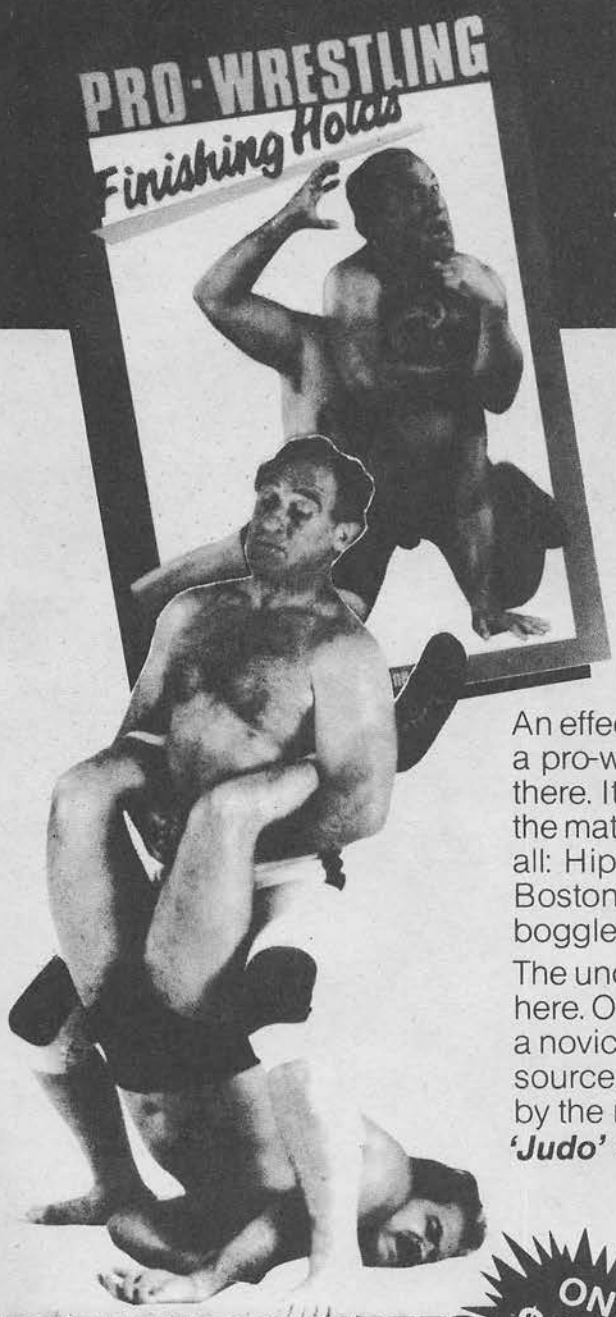
In the words of Gladys Knight and the Pips—'The big city proved too much for the man.'

GREG 'THE HAMMER' VALENTINE

Greg Valentine is on the downward slide of an uphill climb. He has been to the Promised Land—the Intercontinental Championship, twice, and the World Tag Team Titles. He's wrestled for the world title and found Hulk Hogan just a little too big to be pushed around. Valentine's glory days in the WWF are numbered, and the NWA looks like a more challenging change of pace.

Twice he has been robbed on technicalities of the WWF bylaws. First, he lost the Intercontinental belt to Tito Santana in a Steel Cage match last year. Greg assumed that to win a Steel Cage match, you must leave through the gate. Tito Santana knew the rules better, and climbed over the top. The tag team championship was taken from Valentine and Brutus Beefcake when the British Bulldogs insisted on a second referee to officiate the match. This hampered Valentine's rough 'n' tough wrestling. Greg would be better off in the NWA, where he understands the rules like the back of his hand.

LeBell Breaks the Sports Barrier!



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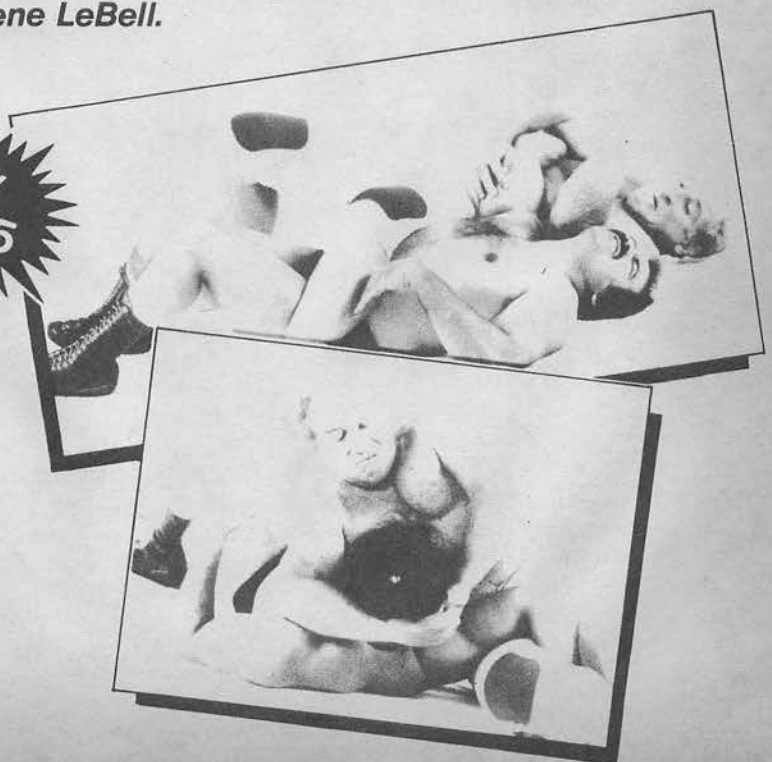

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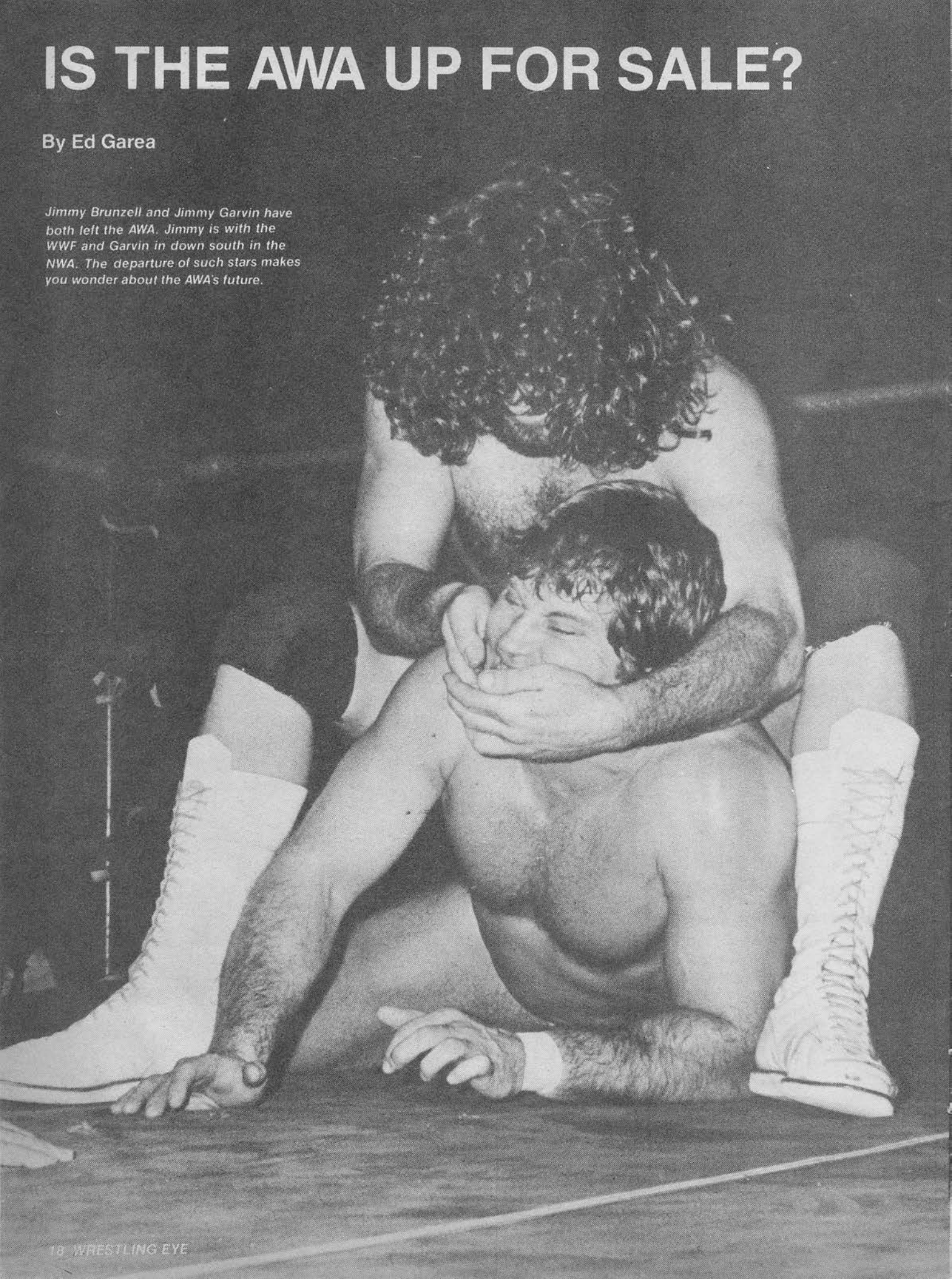
IS THE AWA UP FOR SALE?

By Ed Garea

Jimmy Brunzell and Jimmy Garvin have both left the AWA. Jimmy is with the WWF and Garvin in down south in the NWA. The departure of such stars makes you wonder about the AWA's future.



Is the AWA really up for sale? One sure way to find out is to call the AWA offices, right? Wrong. We called for confirmation and were given a definite "no comment." Now, in the cellars of the rumor mill, this is tantamount to a definite yes; after all, nothing is more suspicious than a "no comment" to a wrestling reporter. But all this does not answer the question of whether the AWA is up for sale. To determine this, we must repair to the method most used by wrestling reporters over the years. Logical deduction and elimination.

To review so far, these are the "facts" as they are known:

a) The AWA is up for sale.
b) The asking price is $3,000,000.00
c) It is being offered to Titan Sports (WWF).
d) One of the conditions for the buyer is that Greg Gagne must work in the front office.

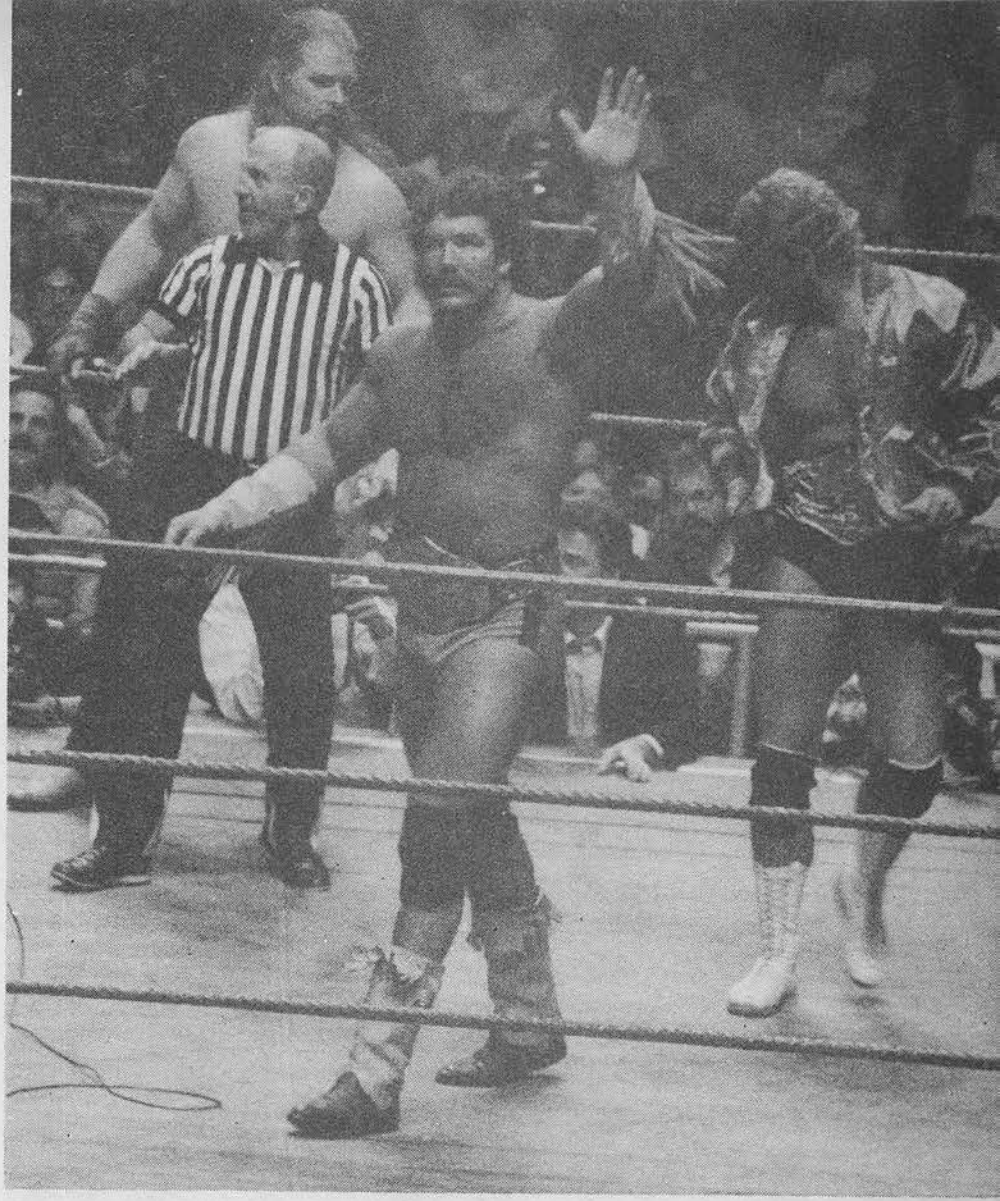
In order to get to the bottom of this, let's examine each point separately. The AWA is up for sale—The AWA is seemingly *always* up for sale. A few years ago, rumors had it being bought by Eddie Einhorn for $5,000,000.00. Before that, the AWA was always supposedly merging with the NWA to form some sort of unified federation. Haven't seen it yet and probably never will. The AWA is being offered to Titan Sports—On the surface, this makes sense. Even though Gagne and McMahon are bitter rivals, money changes everything. And McMahon's track record in the past includes the purchase of two promotions (Calgary and Toronto). However, the AWA is larger than either promotion, one of which went independent recently (Calgary). Also, the AWA is fertile ground, and the purchase of it by Titan does not assure that other promoters will stay away. Rumors also abound that either Crockett or Watts will invade at the first sign of collapse. But to put it simply, McMahon is already in the area and drawing excellent crowds at that. Why buy the beehive when you can get the honey free of charge?

Greg Gagne must work for new owners in front office—This not only makes sense, but further fuels the rumors of impending sale to Titan. This situation happened once before when McMahon Jr. purchased the outstanding stock in the WWF of Gorilla Monsoon. The stipulation of the sale was that Monsoon become employed by Titan for a period of ten years. It is also no secret that young Gagne would like nothing better than to leave the ring for the relative security of ringside. His enthusiasm for active participation waned when Jim Brunzell jumped to the WWF. He underwent a series of image changes, the last being a ridiculous Rambo imitation before phasing out ring appearances in favor of commentary from ringside. Greg was always a decent wrestler, but for some reason never came close to equalling the popularity of his famous father. I'm sure David Sammartino knows how Greg feels.

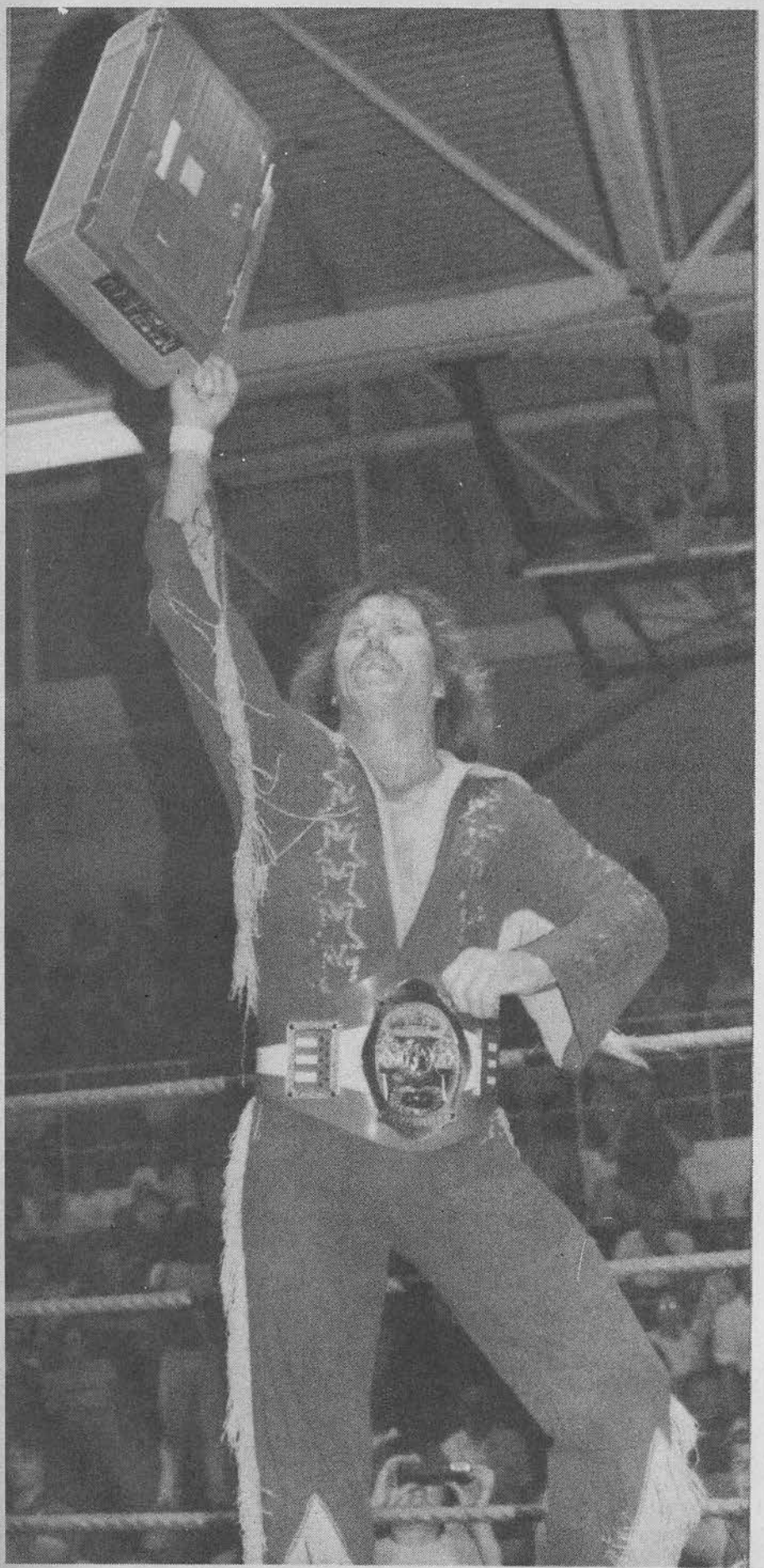
In this reporter's opinion, the AWA will not be sold, least of all sold to the WWF. The reasons are as follows:

a) Verne Gagne has been in this business most of his life. He has seen tough times before and weathered the storm. If he were to consolidate and cut out the unnecessary aspects of his operation, such as paying $4,000-$5,000 to a New York television station to show promo tapes for shows that will never materialize, he can weather McMahon's attack. Gagne also should get his ring in order: stop the rash of no shows at his cards that only serve to dampen fan enthusiasm; stop advertising injured wrestlers such as Jerry Blackwell for upcoming cards. If he gets his ship in order, he will stick around.

b) What of Gagne's lucrative ESPN contract? If Titan purchases the AWA, then logically it inherits



Scott Hall is likely the only man who can rekindle fan interest in the AWA. (Photo by Mike O'Hara)



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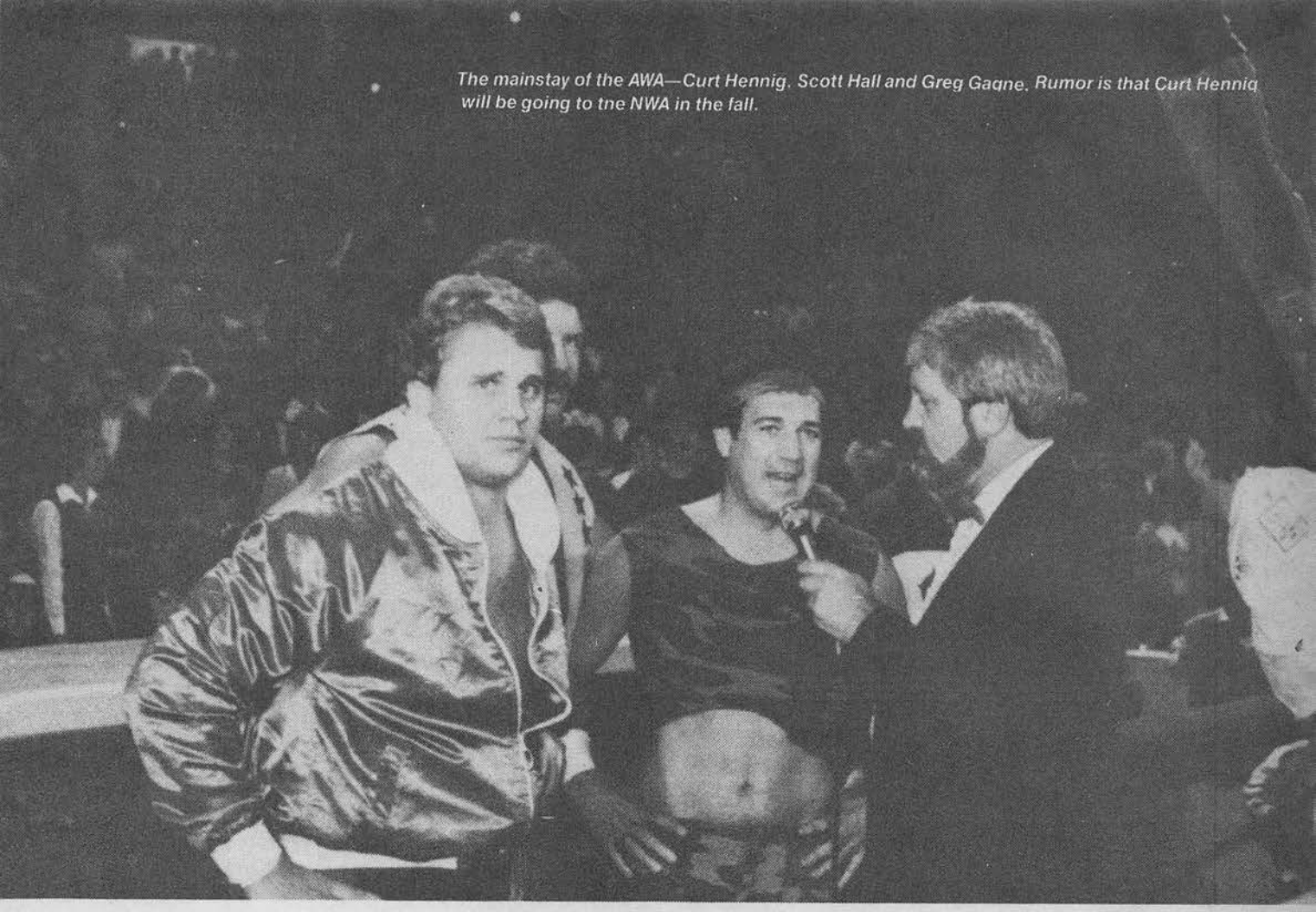
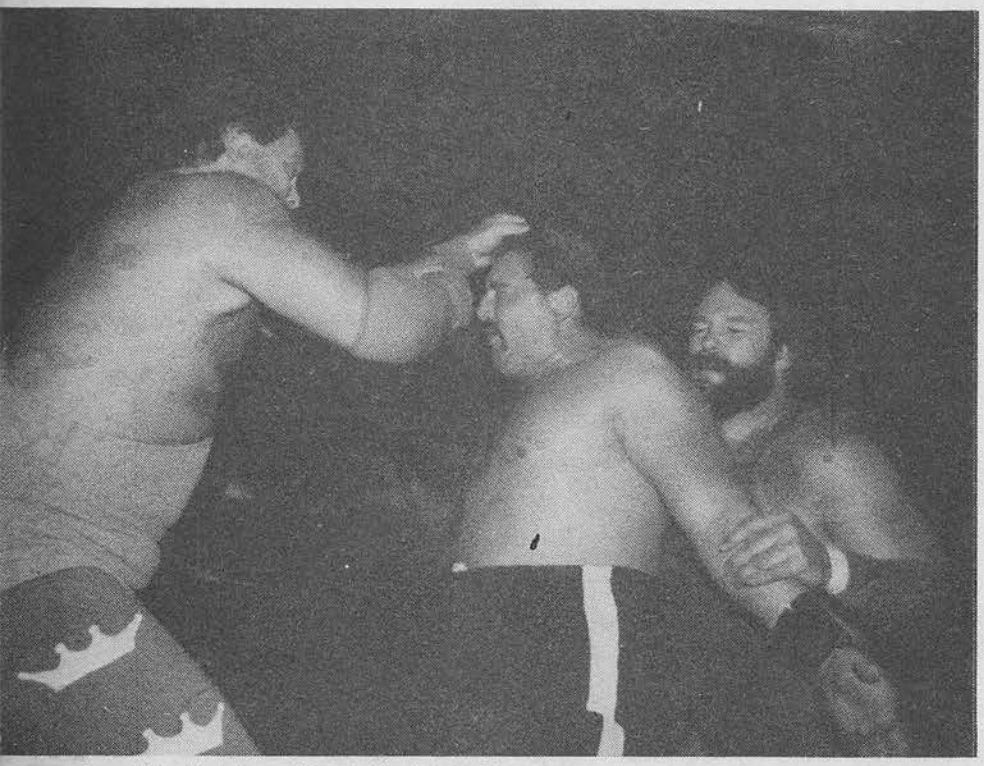


The mainstay of the AWA—Curt Hennig, Scott Hall and Greg Gagne. Rumor is that Curt Hennig will be going to the NWA in the fall.

Stan Hansen has left for Japan.

THE MOD SQUAD

J.D. Costello's Dynasty



Jerry 'King' Lawler and Dutch Mantell double team the Mod Squad. Manager Costello had attempted to purchase Mantell's contract.

The Mod Squad members consult with their mastermind-manager J.D. Costello.

J.D. COSTELLO ATTEMPTS TO BUY DUTCH MANTELL

In expanding his Dynasty, J.D. Costello attempted to purchase the contract of Dutch Mantell on Memphis TV on April 27, 1986.

J.D. said that he had been trying to get in touch with one wrestler all week, and was having problems locating him. He said he understood that he was here at TV today, and promoter Eddie Marlin promised to send out whoever J.D. asked for. J.D. announced that he was going to attempt to purchase Dutch Mantell. Referring to Dutch as "the next World Champion", J.D. promised Dutch a very lucrative cash transaction if he would come out in front of the cameras to talk with him. Well, J.D. successfully lured the Dutchman to the interview area.

Dutch immediately wanted to know how much cash, when and where. J.D. promised Dutch his entire yearly earnings from last year as "up front" money in an escrow account, plus a guarantee of a 50% raise in earnings over the entire next year. Dutch still seemed a little unsettled about the proposal, so J.D. offered to write him an additional check for $20,000.00 on the spot. Then Dutch started talking. He told J.D. since he was a man who enjoyed the finest clothing, cars, and highest form of lifestyle, he must carry around a lot of cash. He asked J.D. to let him see exactly how much cash he had on him, because he didn't want any checks from him. J.D. explained to Dutch that he didn't carry around a lot of cash because of all the "heathen wrestling fans" in the South. J.D. pulled out his wallet to reveal all the cash he had on him (to the sum of $445.00). Dutch grabbed the cash and said, "You have a deal." He abruptly walked off. And announcer Lance Russell pointed out to J.D. that he had just been had "Texas style." In a heat of anger, J.D. promised to get Dutch back.

Later in the TV show, during a scheduled match with Dutch Mantell, J.D. Costello stormed the studio and rang the bell to end the match. The match was still in progress but J.D. said that the match was over. He went on to say that Dutch Mantell had no right to steal his money on national television,

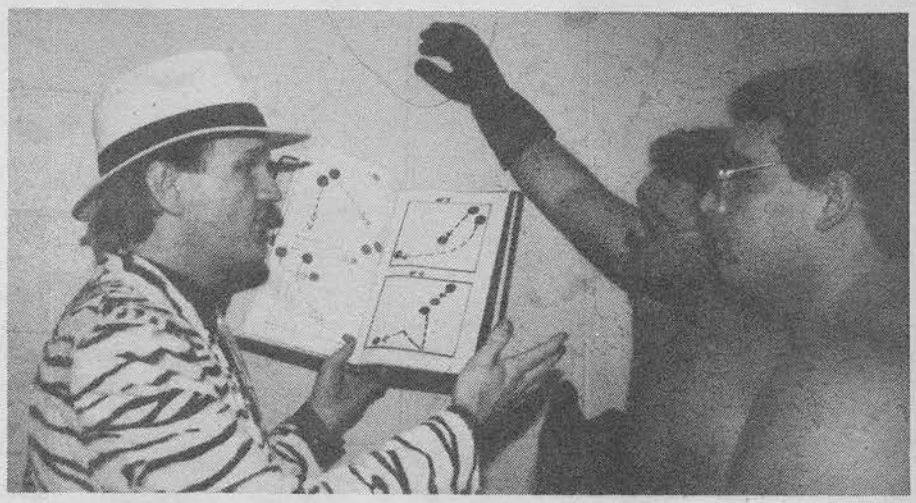
and there was a score to be settled ...man to man between Dutch and himself. The ring was cleared, and a very hot J.D. Costello took off his tuxedo coat, his bow tie, and then his shirt. He entered the ring, and ran toward Dutch only to get knocked down. J.D. rolled out of the ring with Dutch in hot pursuit. Then the MOD Squad stormed the studio along with the entire Dynasty to attack Dutch Mantell.

J.D. COSTELLO REALIZES DYNASTY PROBLEMS: ATTEMPTS TO BUY JERRY LAWLER

Upon organizing his Dynasty, J.D. Costello employed basic business principles...the pyramid theory (start at the bottom and build to the top). But very soon he learned that basic business guidelines don't work in professional wrestling. You don't start at the bottom and build...you must start at the top. J.D. admitted that he has messed up in attempting to purchase the contract of Dutch Mantell.

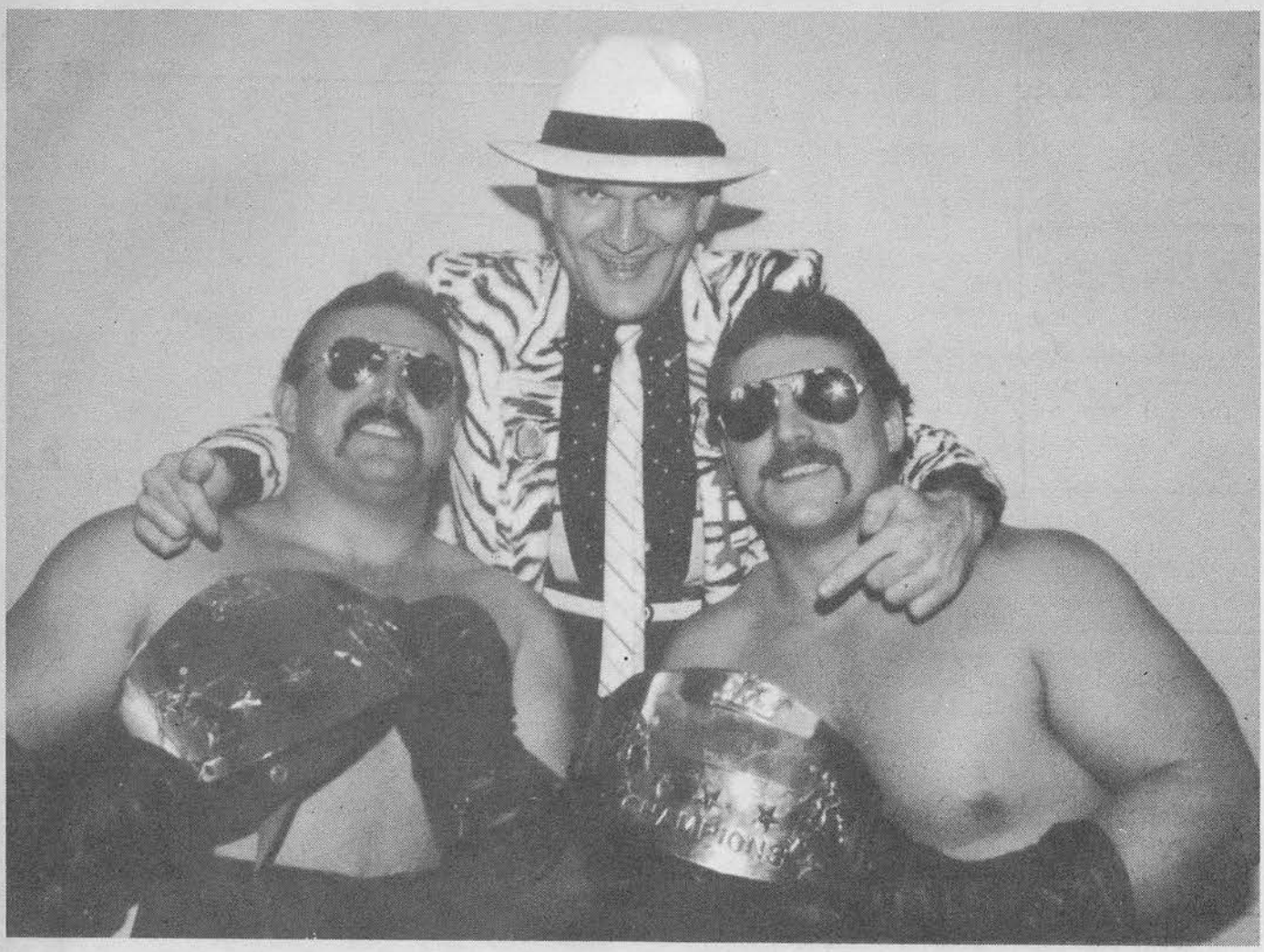
He also said he had saved the lives of Bill Dundee and Buddy Landell. He pointed out two cases ...one in which Bill, Buddy and Tony Falk were wrestling Jerry Lawler, Dutch Mantell, and Joe LeDuc. Joe had knocked Bill completely out on the mat, when J.D. ran in with a pair of handcuffs to enable them to win the match. In another match, J.D. entered the ring and blasted Joe LeDuc with a ball of fire as he was attempting to throw Buddy Landell over the top rope. J.D. said that during the week, he had secretly approached Bill and Buddy about joining his Dynasty and they not only verbally and physically abused him, they laughed and refused him. J.D. had offered them exclusive three-year contracts for a substantial sum of money, and tore their contracts up on TV.

J.D. then said, "You must start at the top, and the wrestler at the top in this area is the king of professional wrestling, Jerry Lawler." J.D. then presented a booklet that his staff had prepared. It was a Jerry Lawler Scouting Report and Wrestling History. J.D. said that the scouting report already told him what he knew...that Lawler was the greatest wrestler around,



A stroke of brilliance, J.D. Costello presented Jerry Lawler's Scouting Report and Wrestling History to the Mod Squad.

Handsome Jerry 'King' Lawler was a fire-ball victim of J.D. Costello. Lawler called the Mod Squad—'leeches and wimps'.



The Mod Squad and J.D. Costello. The squad currently holds the Southern tag team title.

but the wrestling history told him something he didn't know...that Lawler had more wins, more main events, and made more money when he had successful managers like Jimmy Hart and Sam Bass.

"This is where I take over," J.D. said boastingly. "I'm more of a manager than those two put together." At that time Jerry Lawler made his way to J.D. and informed him that no amount of money would sway him into joining his Dynasty. Lawler compared Costello to Jimmy Hart, in calling them both "leeches and wimps." He told Costello to never mention the name Sam Bass again because he was a real man...a hard worker who not only managed him but hauled wrestling rings around, and helped out everyone. At this point J.D. became furious and slapped Lawler. Immediately realizing what he had done, Costello fearfully backed off and ran to the ring with Lawler in hot pursuit. In the ring Lawler grabbed him and stripped his pants off to reveal J.D. wearing a garter belt and ladies pink sheer stockings. An embarrassed J.D. Costello ran out of the studio.

Later in the program, during a Lawler match, J.D. and the Mod Squad stormed the ring to attack Lawler. It was not the usual attack for the Mod Squad. They were out to hurt Lawler and damage him permanently. J.D. handed Basher some form of object. The audience knew too soon what had happened. Out of Basher's hand leaped a huge ball of red fire that seemed to ignite Lawler's chest. The attack continued until Dutch Mantell came running out of the dressing room to save his partner. Minutes later, after paramedics arrived, the TV monitor showed them attending to the injured Lawler. Promoter Eddie Marlin came on TV to say that Lawler would not be able to wrestle because of serious infection setting into the burned area.

But later in the program Lawler and Mantell came out and said they would be there, and Lawler would wrestle to get back at the Mod Squad and J.D. Costello.

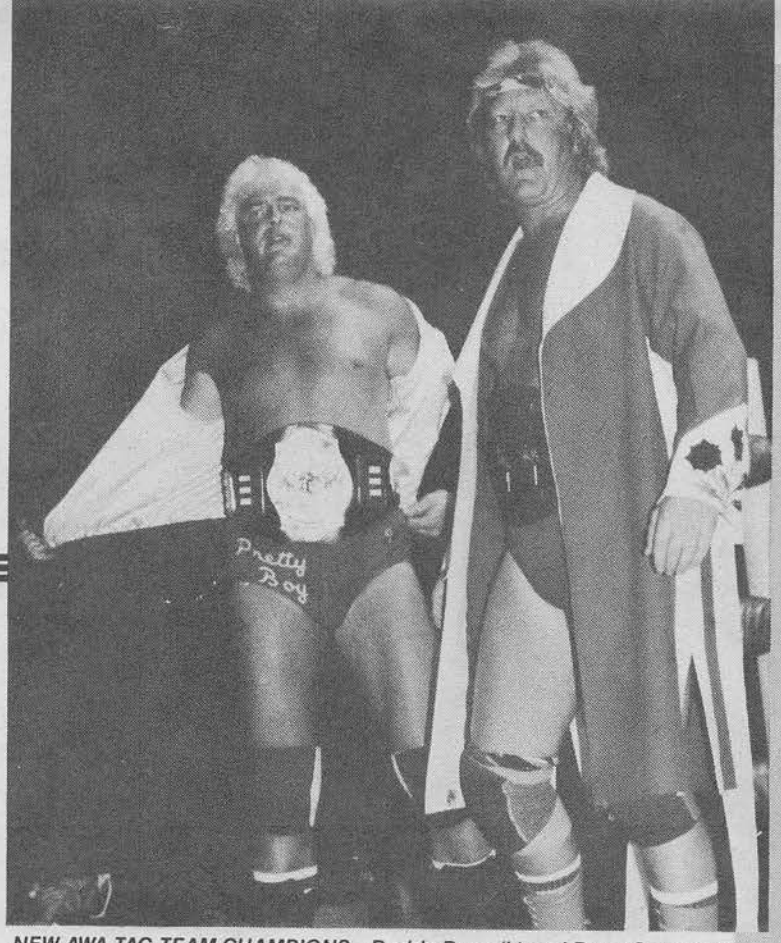
Later in the show, as the Mod Squad was leaving the studios, Lawler and Mantell attacked them on the way to their car. The action was wild and furious to say the least, with no sides claiming victory. We'll have to see what happens now. A series of contracts have been signed for matches with Jerry Lawler and Dutch Mantell taking on the Mod Squad with J.D. Both sides say their fire will be at ringside, and both sides promise serious injury to each other.

TWO TAG TEAMS UPSET!

By Gene Gordon

The promising reign of Scott Hall and Curt Hennig, as AWA tag team champions, is over. In a stunning upset of epic proportion, Buddy Rose and Doug Sommers took the belts in Hammond, Indiana. 'Shock' was the only way to describe fans' reaction to the news. Hall and Hennig were thought to be the perfect tag team combination. Hall provided the strength and raw talent, while Hennig had the experience and speed. The loss to the unlikely duo of Sommers and Rose was due, in part, to the grueling schedule. Depending on how much Buddy and Doug can improve, it's doubtful either will remain on top for long. The Midnight Rockers are early favorites to beat the new champs when they meet.

In the Ladies League, tag team champions Velvet McIntyre and Desiree Petersen have been stripped of their belts for refusing to wrestle Lei Lani Kai and her partner, Judy Martin. Henceforth, Lei Lani and Judy will be officially endorsed as champions. Judy Martin is also the United States Ladies Champ, and will continue to defend that belt as well. Lei Lani Kai is the former WWF world champ, winning and losing her title to Wendi Richter. Martin and Kai will have the edge over all other teams in regard to experience and ability. Few teams are going to be serious challengers for these girls.



NEW AWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS—Buddy Rose (L) and Doug Sommers. Previously, they had held the All South tag team titles.

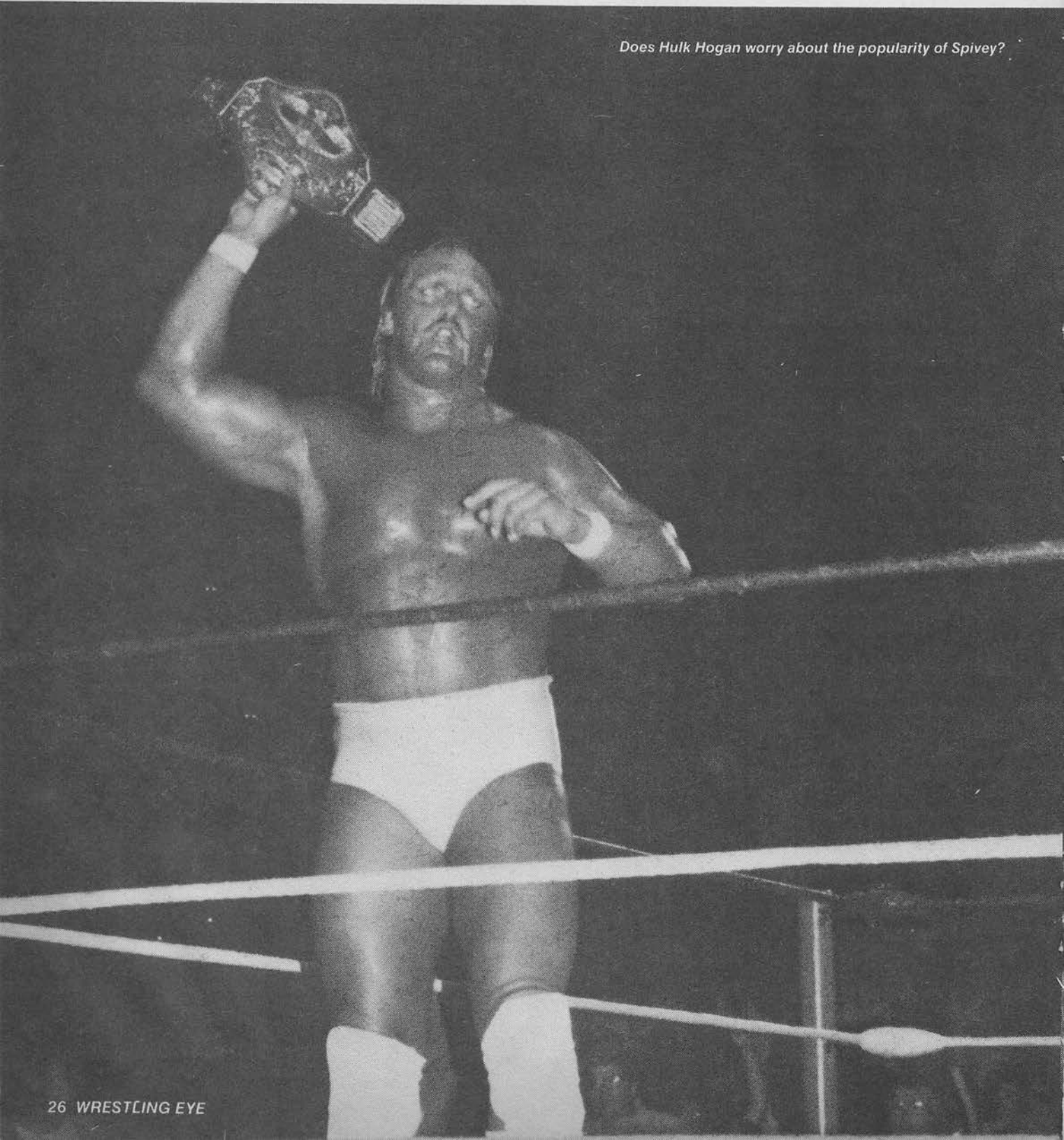
Lei Lani Kai and Judy Martin have been given the tag team titles held by Velvet McIntyre and Desiree Petersen.

DANNY SPIVEY

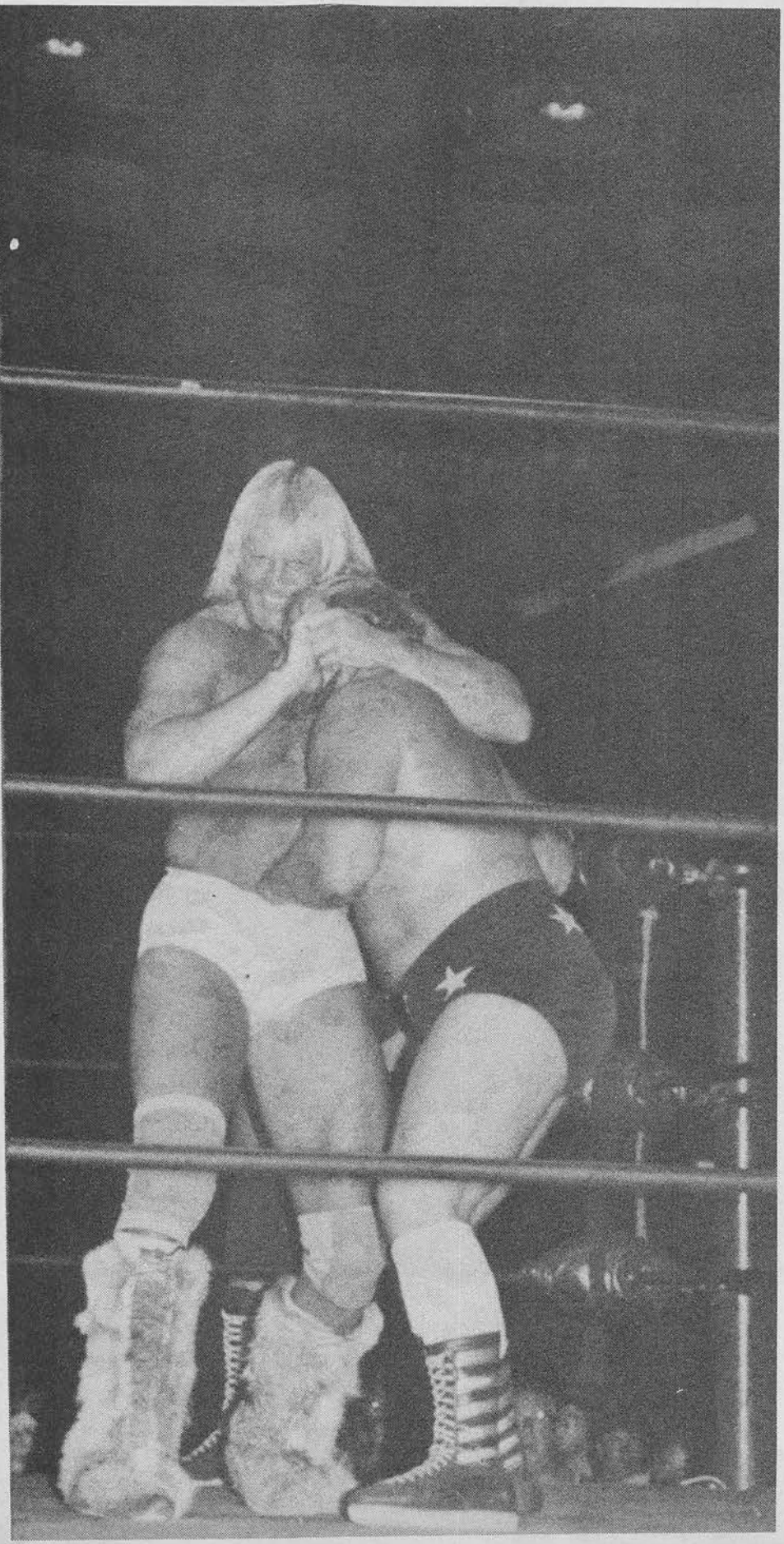
THE 'NEW' HULK HOGAN?

WRESTLING EYE

By Mike Bellew



Does Hulk Hogan worry about the popularity of Spivey?



Once known as 'Starship Eagle'. Danny Spivey rivals the WWF champ in size and strength.

It's hard not to think of Hulk Hogan when you watch Danny Spivey bouncing around the ring. The two could be brothers—maybe even twins, born years apart. The blond flashes of hair, the powerful bronze biceps and triceps, and that unmistakeable quality of 'charisma' found only in champions. Danny Spivey, the younger man, has a few things to learn before he can actually assume the world title. However, the natural talent is there.

Undeniably, the 6'6", 235-pound grappler from Kentucky is on his way to the top. Already the fans are cheering for him even before he leaves the dressing room. When his huge frame does appear, the response from those eager fans is overwhelming. The noise is deafening. Posters of cardboard and oaktag are enscribed with his name and his magic-marker image. Young girls toss kisses to him, and the men respect his athletic ability. He is all things to all people.

Tag-teaming with the older and much more experienced Mike Rotundo, it's still clear who the real boss is—Danny Spivey.

The adoring fans can thank Dusty Rhodes for bringing Danny into the grunting and groaning. A keen judge of character, Rhodes saw pure potential in Spivey, even if his one leg was in a cast. That's correct, the first time the two men actually met, Danny had his leg immobilized. Danny had been playing pro ball with the New York Jets. However, in his first season with the NFL he had injured his leg. This was the point in his life where Dusty Rhodes came in. The former world champion had been silently following Spivey's athletic career since Danny's days at the University of Georgia. Now that football was no longer an option for him, Rhodes offered him a shot at professional wrestling. Reluctantly, Spivey agreed.

"Don't get me wrong," says Spivey. "I like professional wrestling, I even watched it as a kid. But I wasn't too crazy about climbing into the ring and getting beat up by some crazy Russian. In football there are rules and the players try to obey them. In wrestling, most guys are just out to win. I had never wrestled and didn't know if I

could handle it. Dusty said he'd train me, and so I gave it a shot."

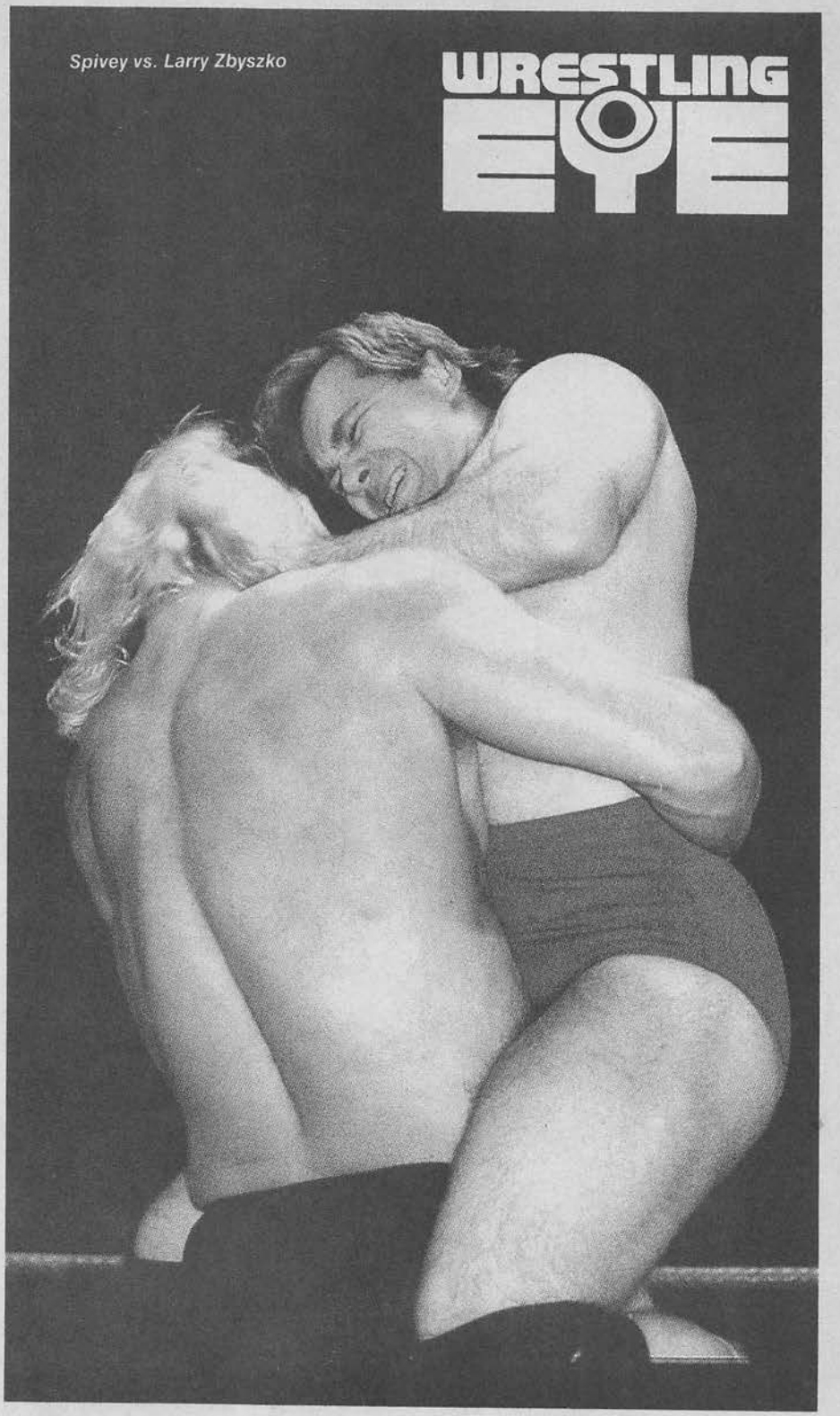
Dusty Rhodes knew Danny Spivey didn't have much experience, so he teamed the well-muscled rookie with another well-muscled rookie. Thus the tag team combination of Starship Eagle and Coyote was born. (Today, everybody knows the Coyote as Scott Hall.) Coyote and Starship got off to an incredibly fast start—in their first pro match, they beat Bulldog Brown and Marty Jannetty. After their debut in Tampa, Florida, Hall and Spivey toured the country. Their inexperience worked well; since they knew they had to be careful, Coyote and Eagle were twice as alert.

"No one could ever catch us off-guard. Except for Mike Rotundo, Scott Hall was the finest tag team partner I ever had. We were fresh and new, and willing to give all we had. No matter who scored the pin, it was always a victory we shared equally." The team broke up when Scott Hall went to the AWA. Danny Spivey returned to the NWA.

After two years back in the National Wrestling Alliance, Danny took a crack at the WWF. His first appearances left the fans puzzled. They liked what they saw, but questioned his ring savvy. Was this just another Hulk Hogan look-alike trying to get by on his features? It didn't help that neither Vince McMahon nor Bruno Sammartino hardly said anything about Spivey's background. Ticket-buyers didn't know if this guy had just learned to wrestle, or if he had been wrestling for ten years. It was open to Spivey to win over the fans. To help the fans get a true picture of him, Danny wrestled individually.

"I was offered partners like Hillbilly Jim and Ricky Steamboat, but I wanted to prove what I was made of. If the people saw me wrestling with superstars like them, they would think Steamboat or Hillbilly was carrying me. I worked my tail off to win over the fans."

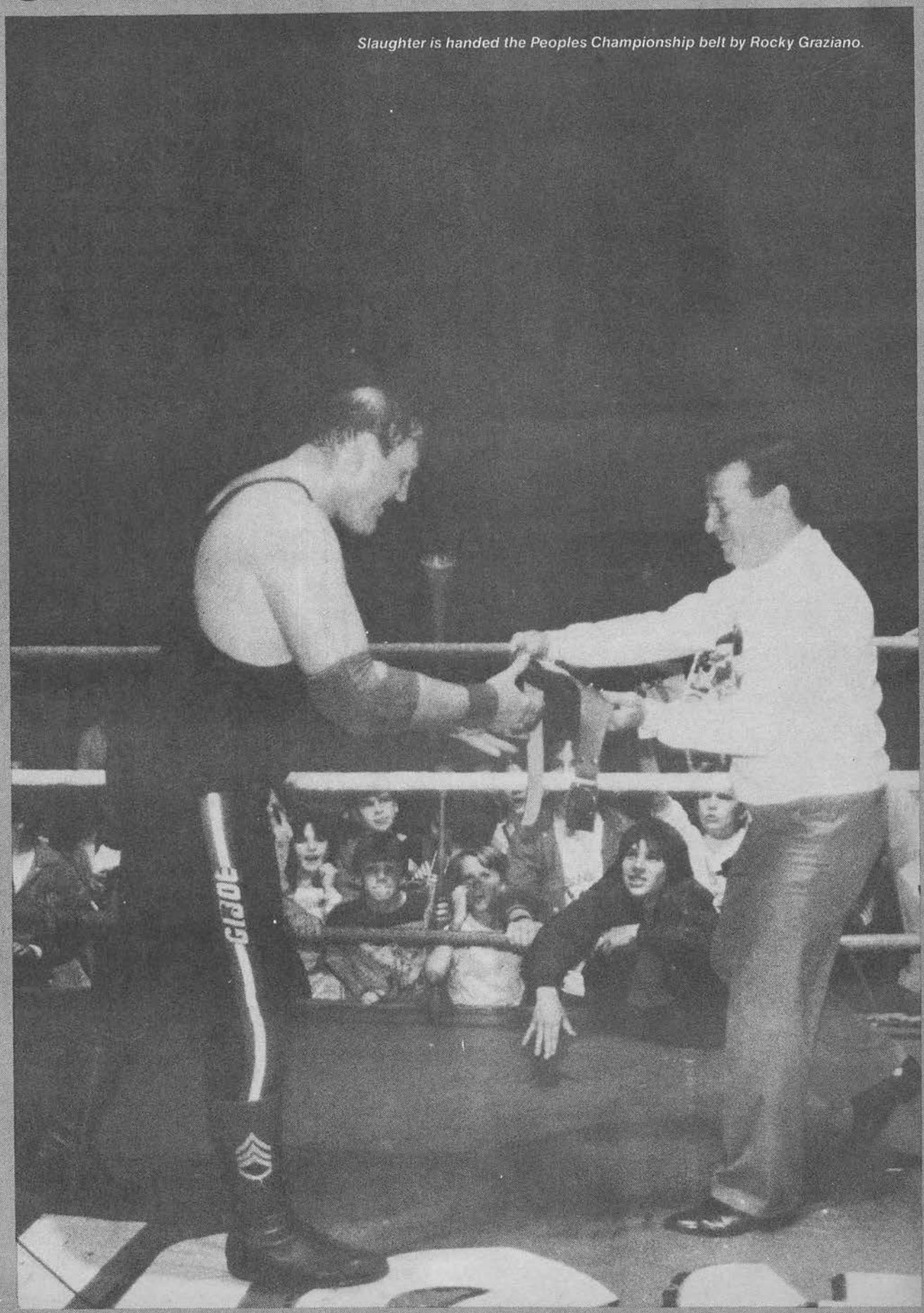
When Mike Rotundo, the ex-tag team champ, came back, Spivey was an established star. Rotundo and Spivey got together and they hit it off. "Mike and I have so much in common, it's uncanny," says Danny. "You have to get along with your tag team partner or else it won't work. Two good athletes will never be tag team champions if they don't have a common bond. Mike had teamed with Barry Windham and won the WWF championships—I hope we can do the same. After that, I think I'm ready for Randy 'Macho Man' Savage and his Intercontinental title."



Spivey vs. Larry Zbyszko

"Hulk Hogan has been a fine champion. I think a match between us would be even bigger than both WRESTLE MANIA's. With the fans behind me I can do anything. Without bragging, I think I could give Hulk Hogan his toughest match ever. For him, it would be like wrestling a mirror image of his younger self."

CANDID PIC



Slaughter is handed the Peoples Championship belt by Rocky Graziano.

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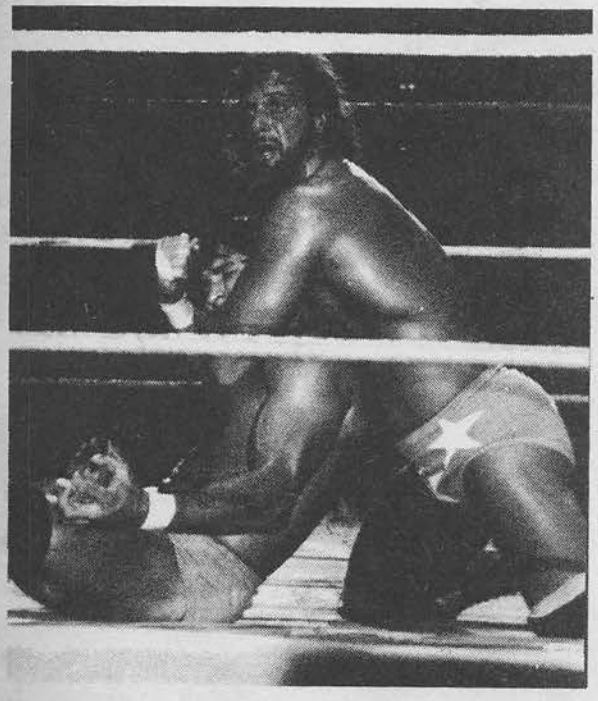

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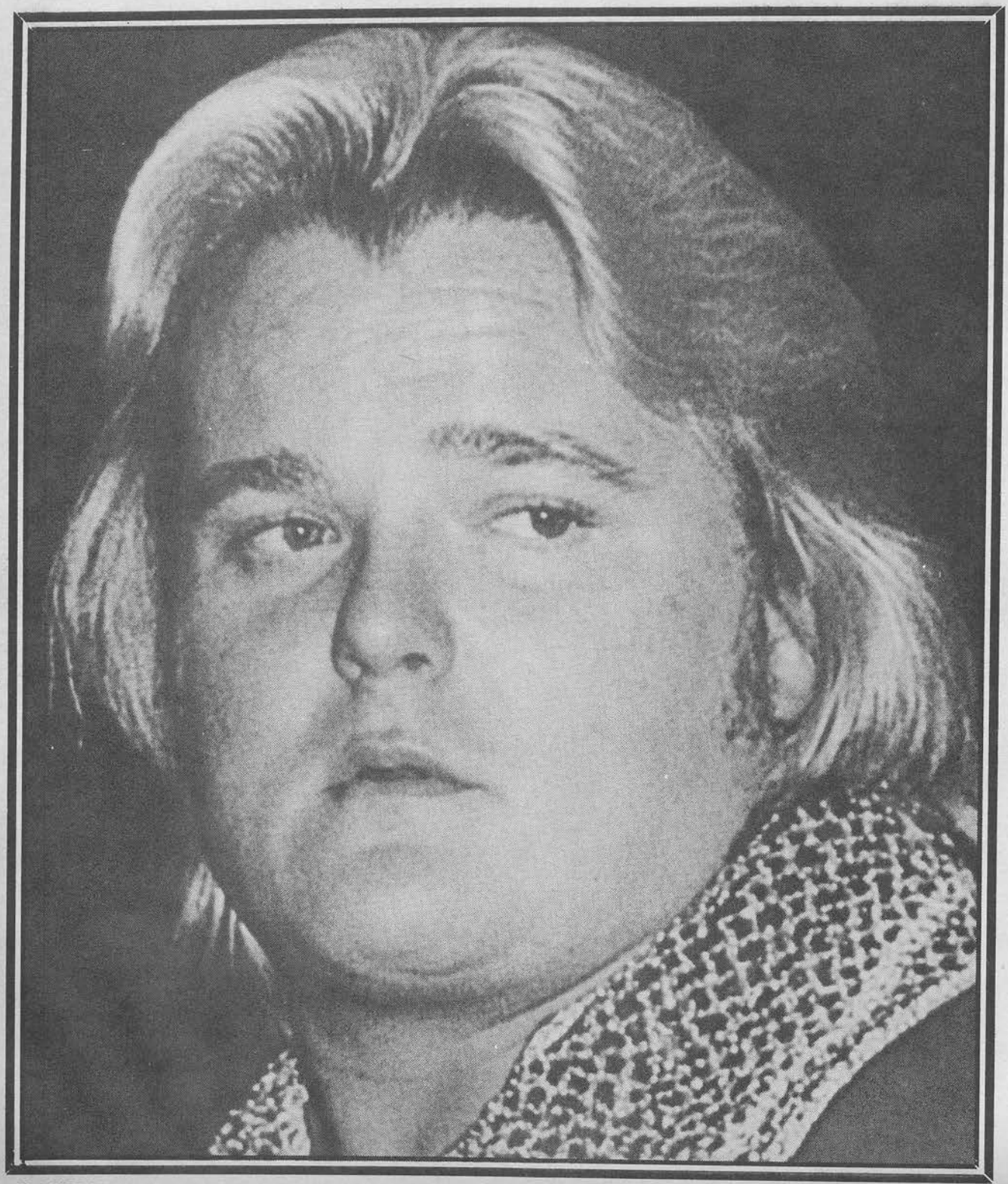
AFTER THE THREE COUNT

By Gene Gordon



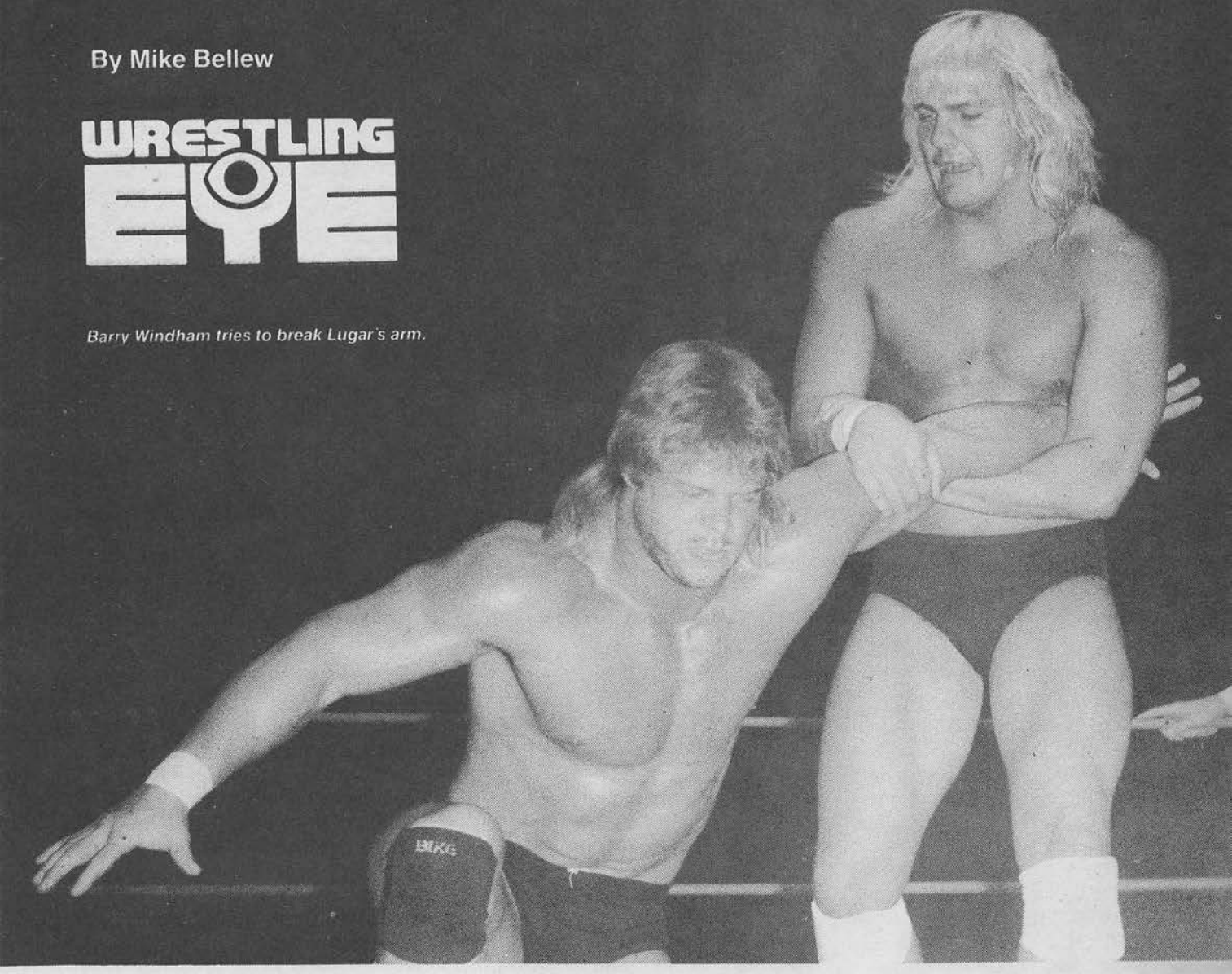
Greg 'The Hammer' Valentine

LEX LUGAR

SUPERSTAR ON THE RISE

By Mike Bellew

WRESTLING EYE

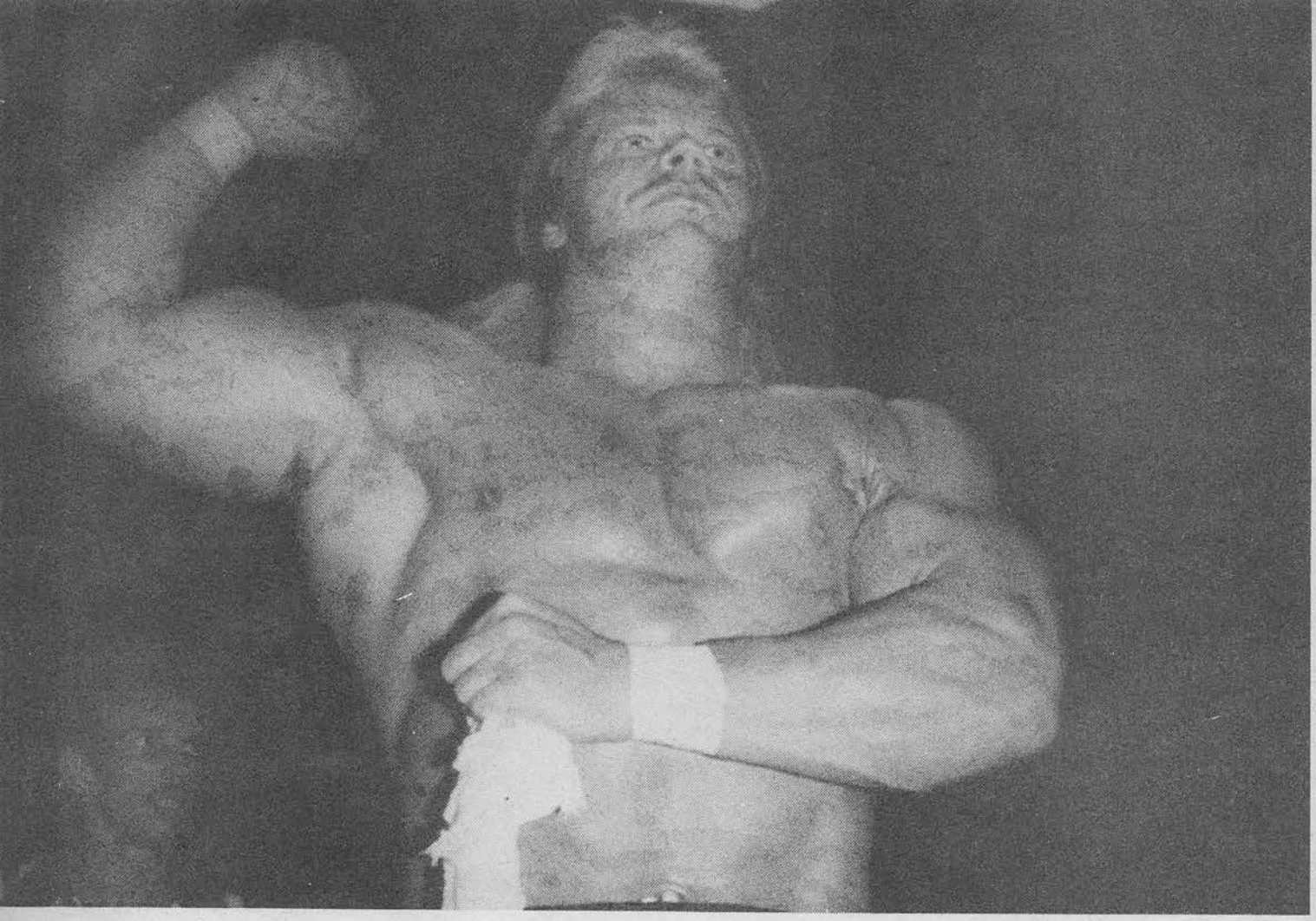


Barry Windham tries to break Lugar's arm.

The first time muscleman Lex Lugar made national headlines was in 1984. 'ROOKIE WRESTLER BEATS WAHOO McDANIEL FOR SOUTHERN TITLE'—it was unbelievable enough for the National Enquirer or Midnight Globe. Only in his first year as a professional wrestler, already the 6'3", 270-pound grappler was mowing down experienced competition. It was after Lex's sensational win over McDaniel that people began to take notice. Florida promoters began singing his praises like no other wrestler before or since. His success has been unparalelled, as if wrestling was made just for Lex Lugar.

Before climbing into the wrestling ring, Lex played pro ball as an offensive tackle for the Memphis Showboats and the Tampa Bay Bandits. When he tired of the USFL's year-round schedule, Lugar approached Hiro Matsuda for advice on becoming a wrestler. The Japanese matman was willing to help the extraordinary strong rookie. Unlike other burly ex-football players, Lex wasn't interested in taking any shortcuts to the top. Stan Hansen, Bobby Duncan, Ernie Ladd and Angelo Mosca may have brawled and slugged. But if Lex was going to wrestle, then he wanted to know all that he could.

Hiro Matsuda devised all of Lugar's training and wrestling tactics. He started his protege off with hindo squats, jumping squats and Nautilus exercises to improve his flexibility. Muscles alone wouldn't help Lugar if he couldn't twist his shoulders off the mat to avoid being pinned. For many months Lugar labored in the gym before even



The Florida heavyweight champion and TV-champion has all the raw material to be a world champ.

wrestling his first opponent. Matsuda had to separate Lugar the wrestler from Lugar the football player. When he finally emerged, he was swift, strong, serious and unscrupulous. For more guidance, Lex Lugar sought the advice of manager Percival Pringle, That may have been a mistake; Pringle changed all the good Matsuda had done into 'evil.' "Percival showed me quite a few things when I was just starting out," said Lugar. "He showed me that might makes right."

Early on in his career, only Jesse Barr was able to overcome Lugar's raw strength with superior mat techniques. "Barr was lucky, that's all. He took advantage of my inexperience. But when I started to learn more, he took off.

"Before I wrestled Wahoo McDaniel for the Southern title, Wahoo had every excuse under the hot Florida sun for not wrestling me. Jesse Barr was the same. When he did wrestle, he knew I was the better man. Rather than risk fighting me again in my type of match—a Texas Death Match or Lumberjack Match, he ran. I slapped the heck out of him on TV, when he claimed he was going to tell Barry Windham how to beat me. Each day, I get stronger and stronger.

"Don't forget, I'm also the Television champ, now," added Lugar. Lex just recently beat Jerry Grey in the finals of the TV championship tournament.

With Barr on the run, Lugar's nearest challengers are the Windhams. Lugar hates the brother combination of Barry and Kendall so much that even when he isn't wrestling them, Lugar will find some excuse to interfere with their match. A perfect example of this was when Kendell climbed in the ring against Bob Roop. Lugar was at ringside as one of the commentators. As Windham started to overtake Roop, Lugar distracted the referee, and Roop then slugged his opponent with a pair of brass knuckles. This led to a match between Lugar and Roop against Barry and Kendell. Many fans can't understand why there is so much animosity between Lugar and the Windhams. Florida fans dream of the day when Lugar will join forces with the Texan brothers.

"That'll be the day," snarls Lugar. "I have nothing in common with Barry or his wimp brother. Everything I have, I had to fight for. No one made life easy for me. The Windhams have always had their daddy protecting them and helping them. I'd like to see how far they would have gotten without Blackjack Mulligan looking out for them. My bet is that they would still be scrubs in preliminary matches. Barry will never be the man I am, because I'm a self-made man.

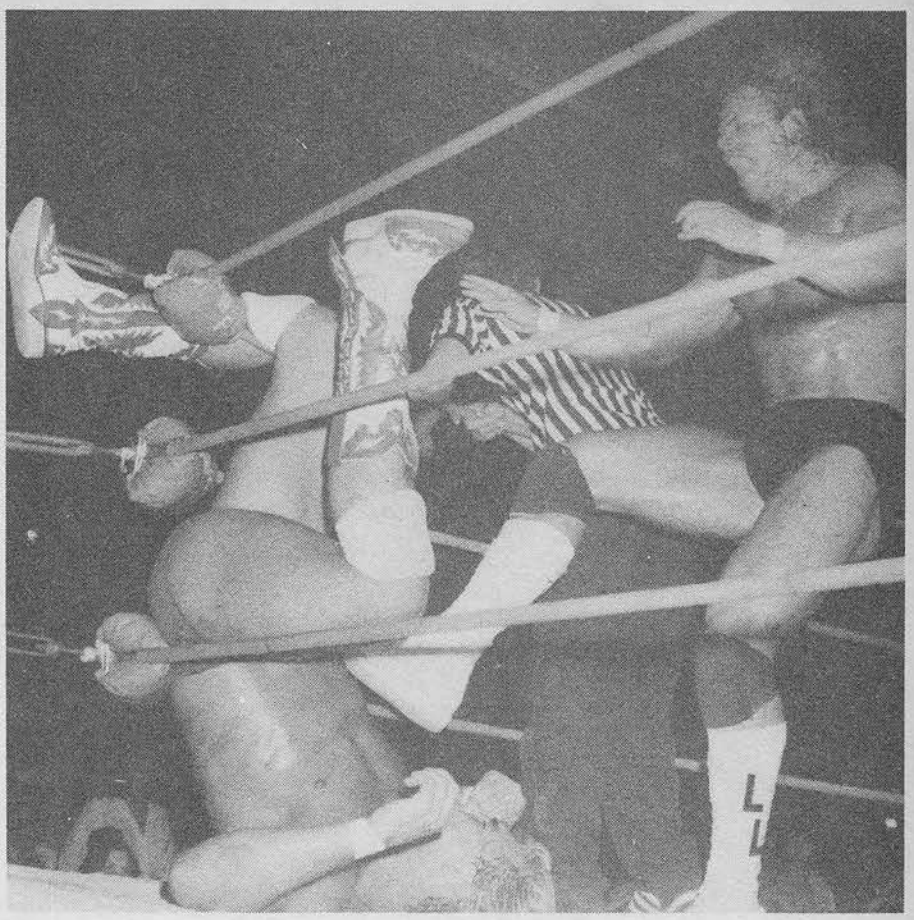
"Unlike the Windhams, I can do it all. I can wrestle or fight toe-to-toe. The object of wrestling is to win. It doesn't really matter how a wrestler wins, just as long as he does win. If a referee doesn't catch a wrestler choking, hitting or kicking—that's good. The Windhams

would have been long gone from Florida if the referees didn't protect them from REAL men like Roop and me."

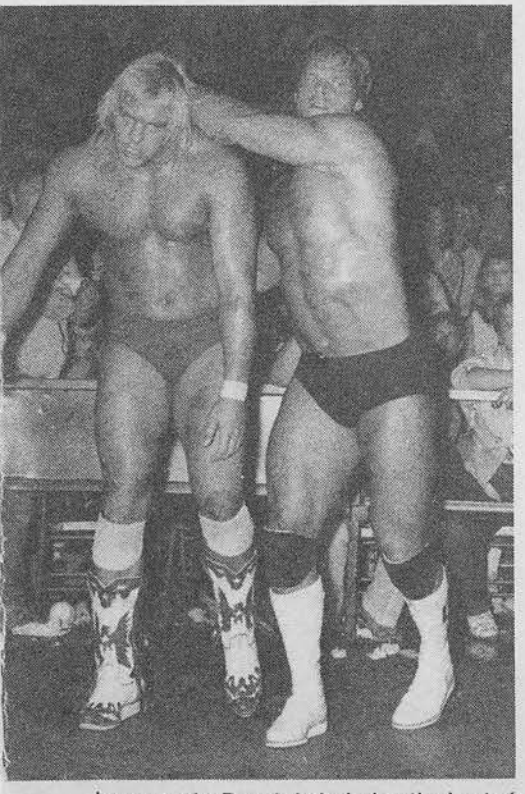
For Lex Lugar, his feud with the Windhams may be a thing of the past. Already he is being offered some big bucks to come to the WWF and try his luck against Hulk Hogan. From the day he first put on a pair of wrestling trunks, people have been proclaiming him the 'New Hulk Hogan'. Would the younger man be able to overthrow the current WWF champion?

"Don't make me laugh. Hulk Hogan is finished. The man has been getting by wrestling fat, out-of-shape bums like Bundy and Studd. If he were ever to face a tough guy like me, he'd never know what happened. Hulk Hogan has nothing but fear for me. I'd bust a lot of heads in the WWF, if I could stand the smog-filled Northeast. Florida is so clean and healthy, I'll probably have to bring an oxygen tank with me." Vain as he is, Lex Lugar might be the biggest thing to hit wrestling since Hulk Hogan.

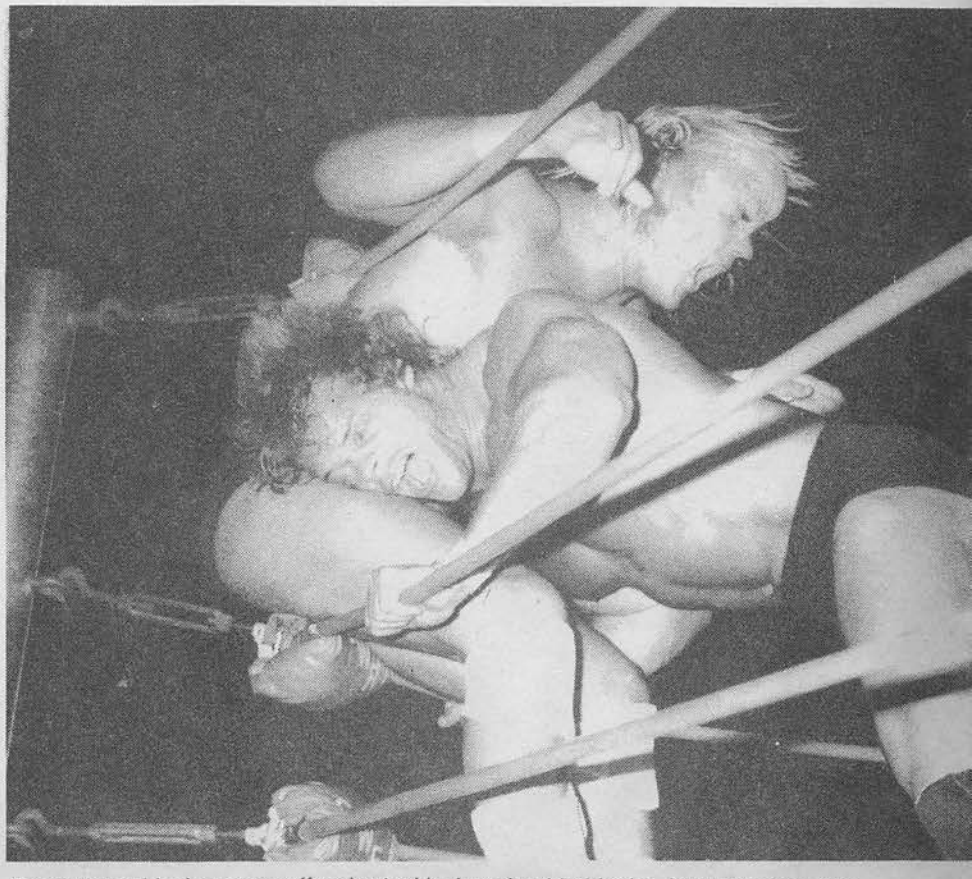
Only one thing could make Lex Lugar even better, and that is if he were to give up the likes of Sir Oliver Humperdinck, Bob Roop and Kendo Nagasaki.



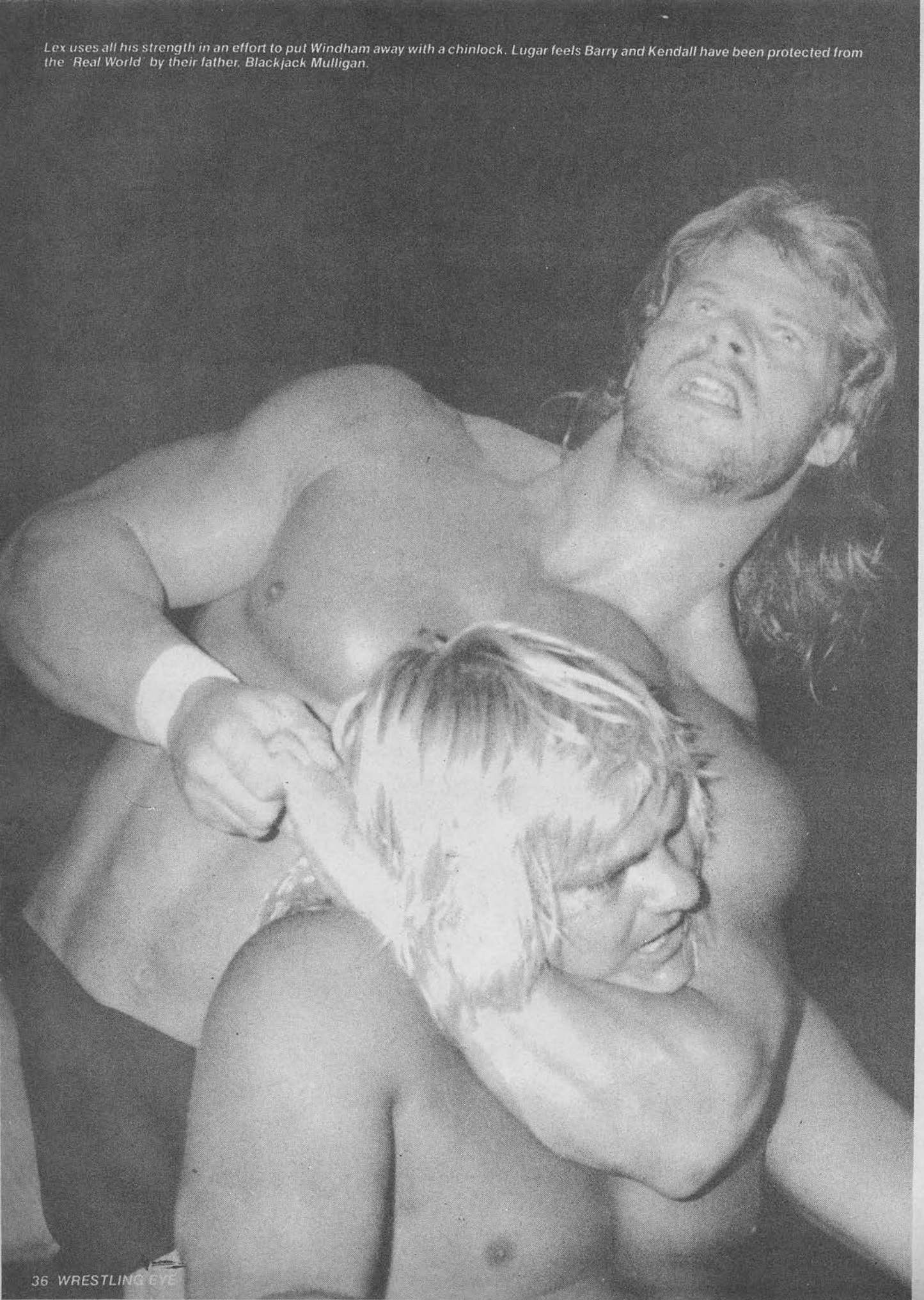
Lugar pummels an upside-down Windham with kicks to the midsection.



Lugar yanks Barry's hair during the heat of the battle.



Reverting to his days as an offensive tackle. Lex shoulderblocks Barry Windham into a corner.



Lex uses all his strength in an effort to put Windham away with a chinlock. Lugar feels Barry and Kendall have been protected from the 'Real World' by their father, Blackjack Mulligan.

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

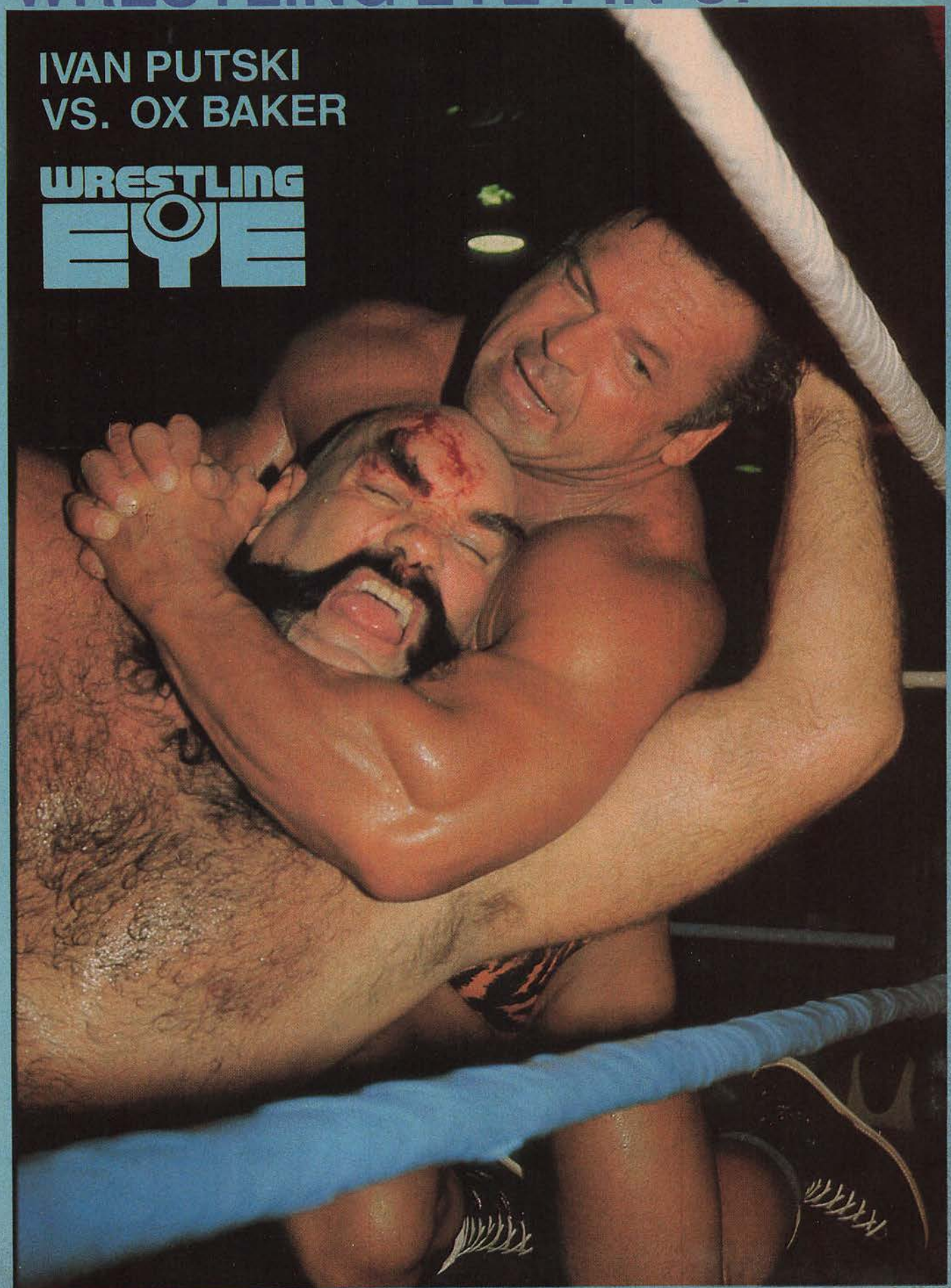
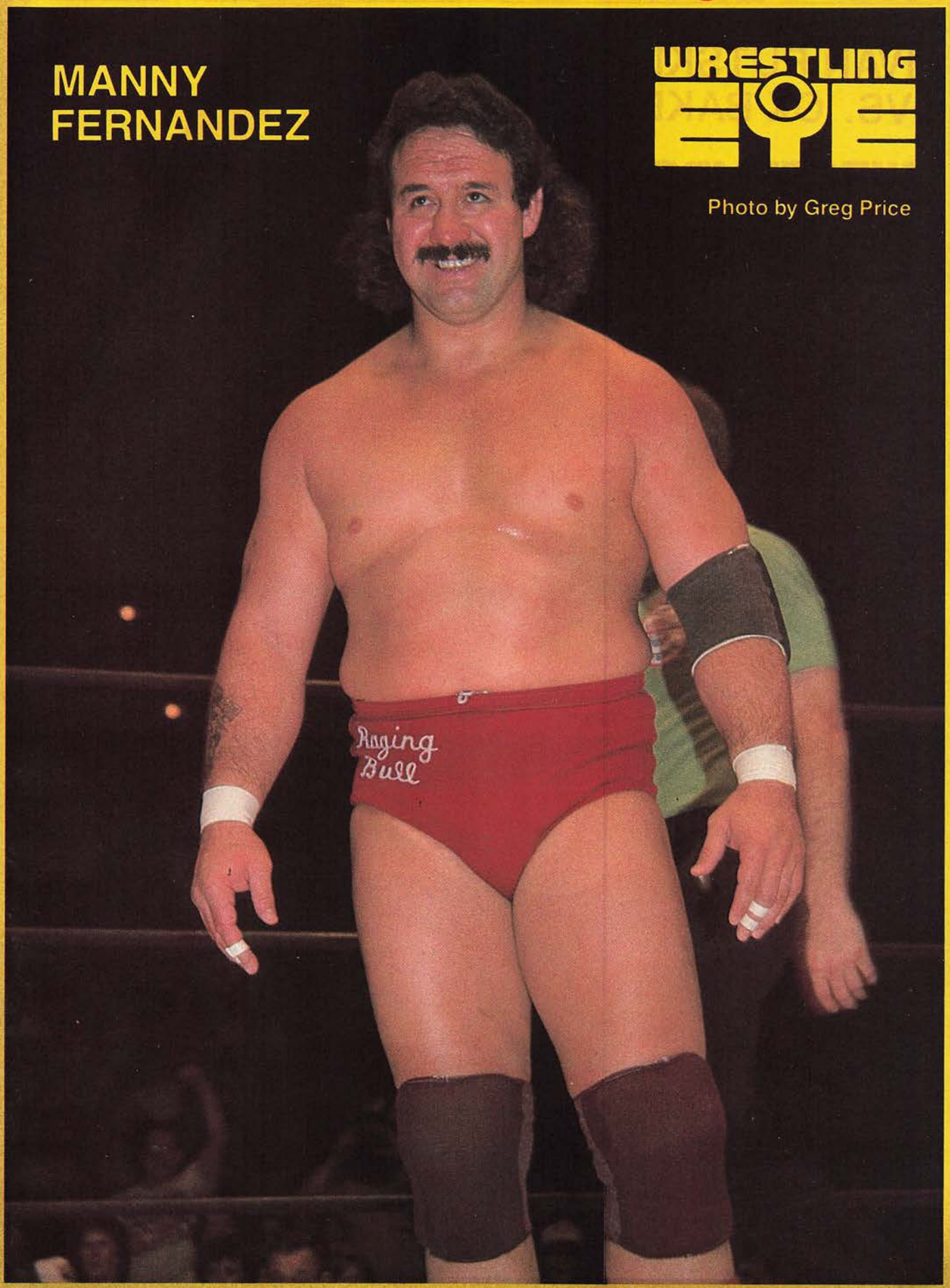


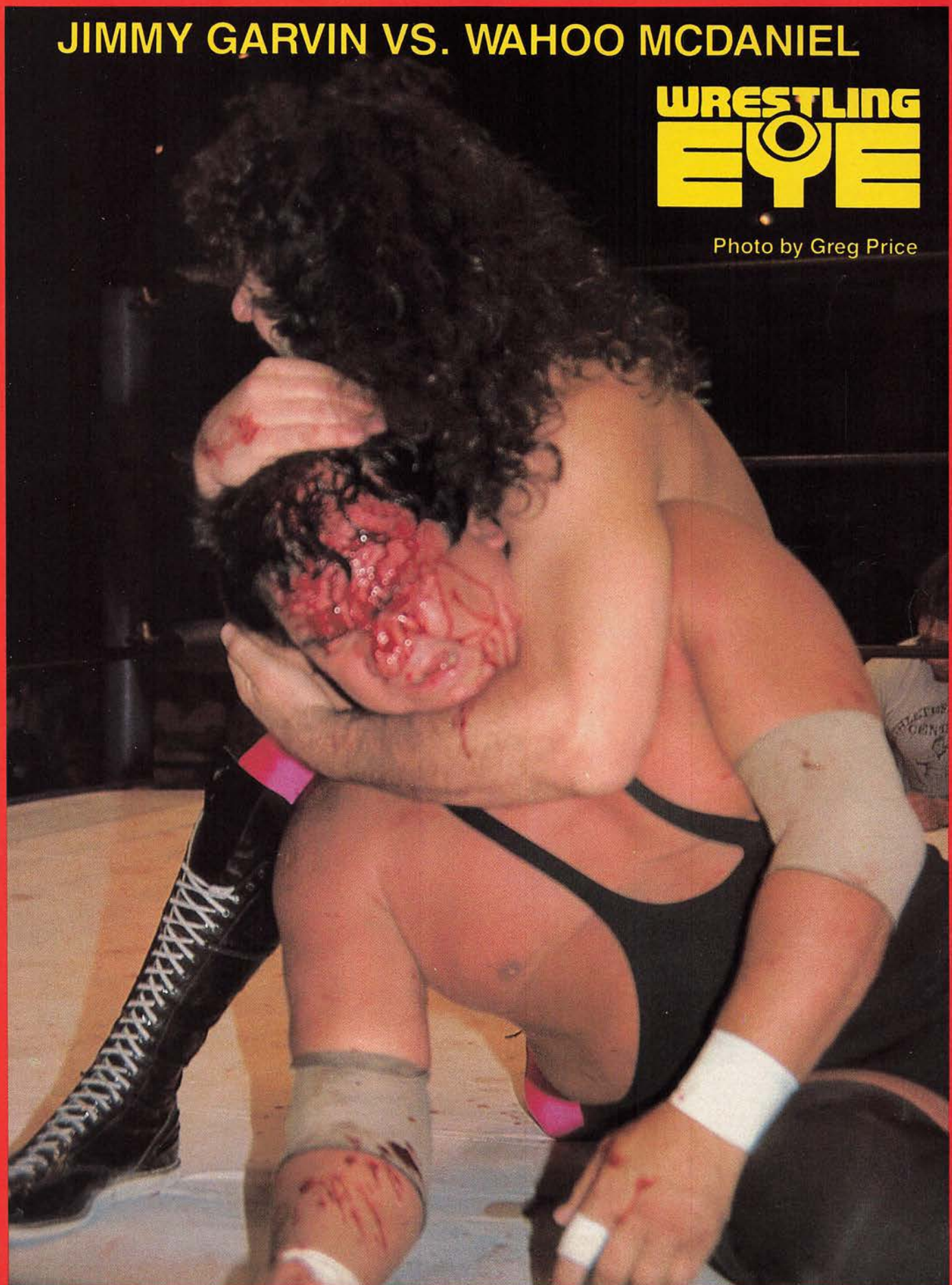
Photo by Tom Casino

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP



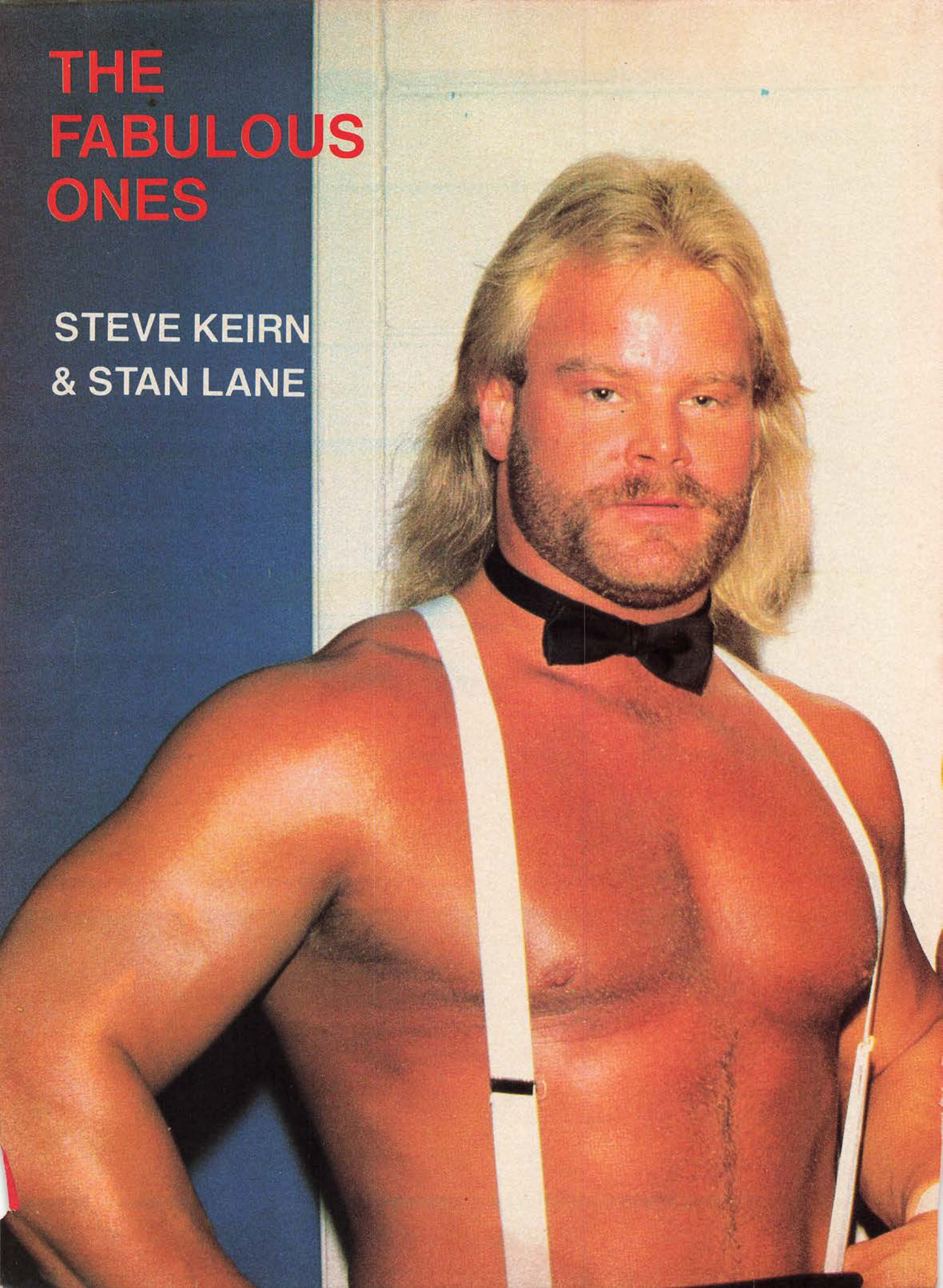
WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

JIMMY GARVIN VS. WAHOO MCDANIEL



THE FABULOUS ONES

STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE



WRESTLING EYE

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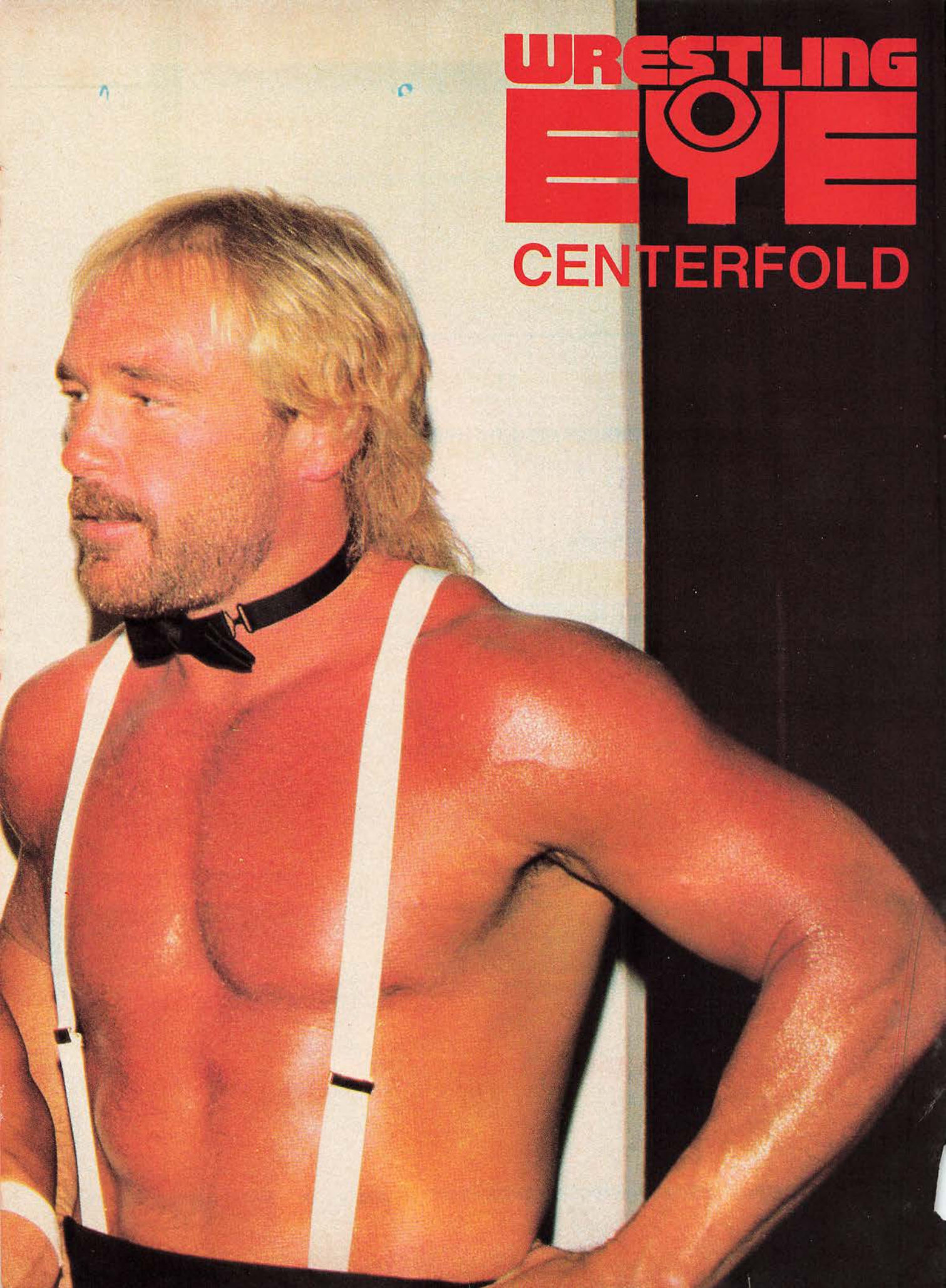

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

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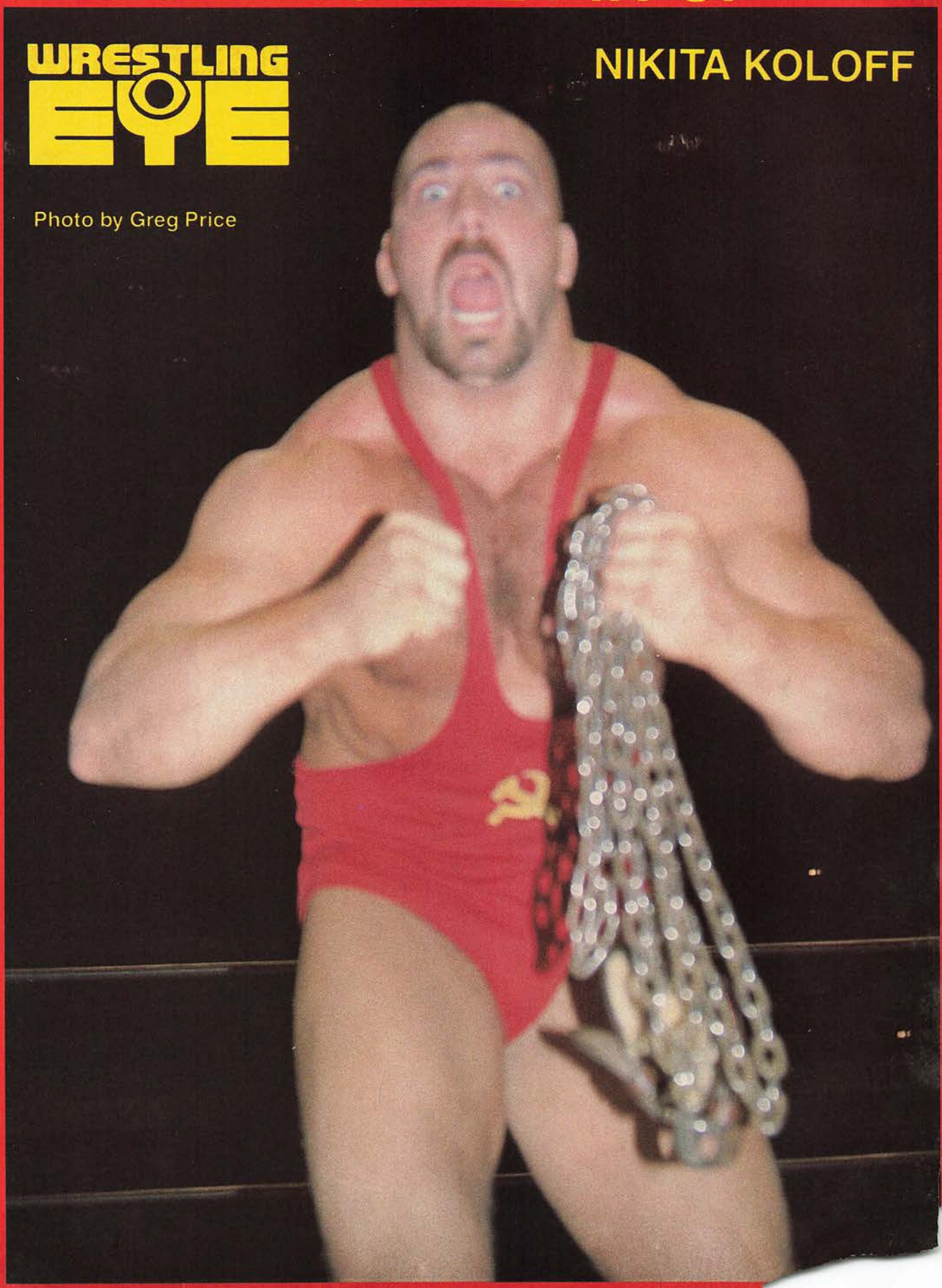
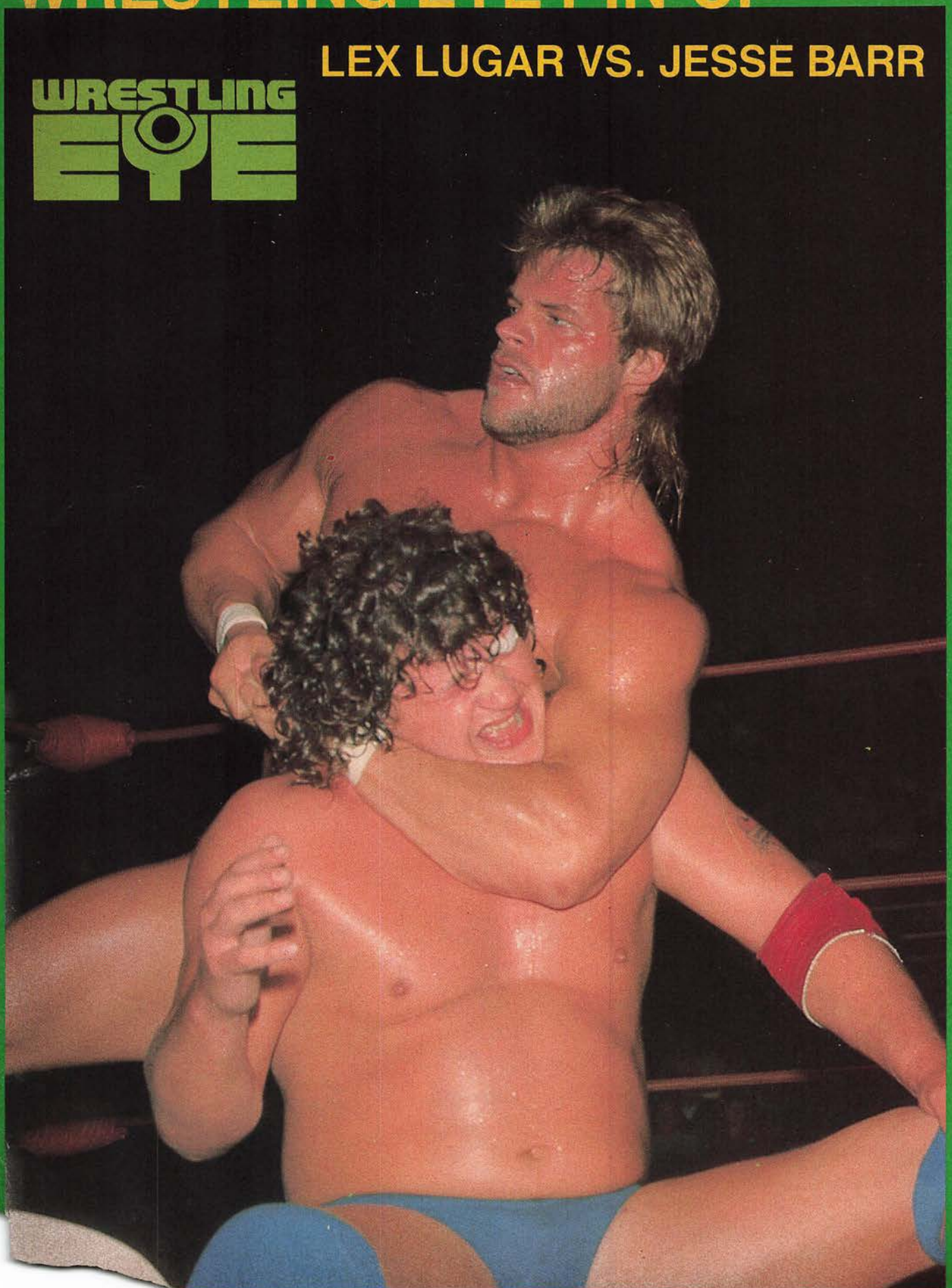


WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

LEX LUGAR VS. JESSE BARR

WRESTLING EYE



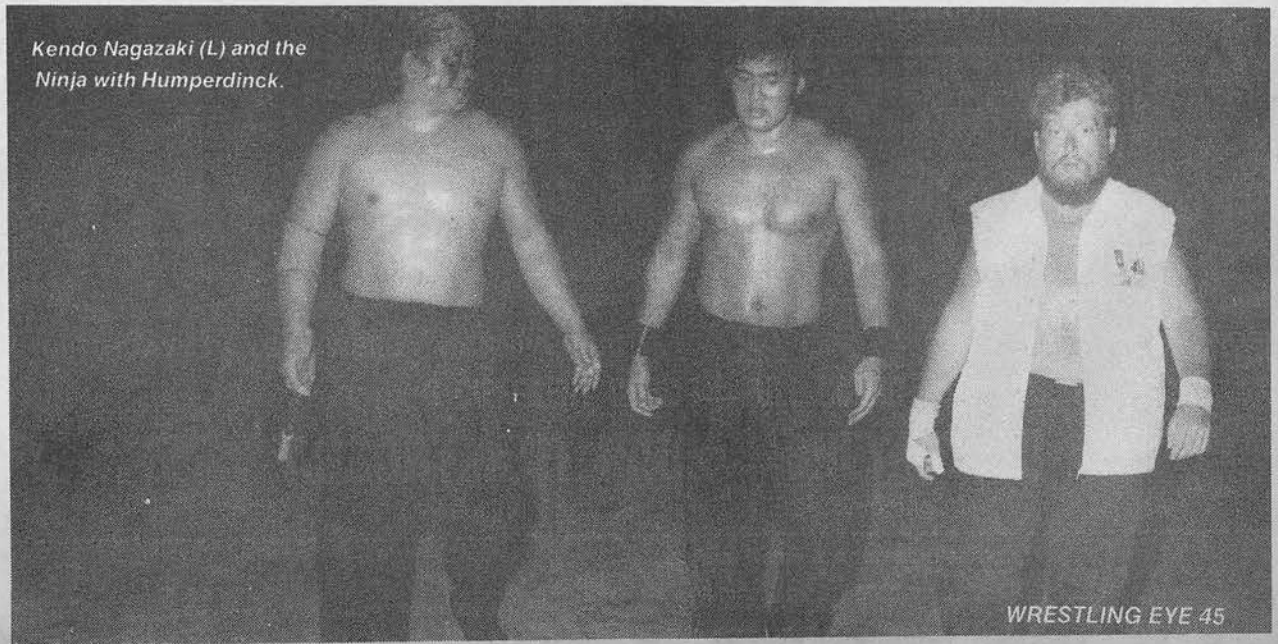
FLORIDA ACTION

Wrassling At Its Boiling Point!

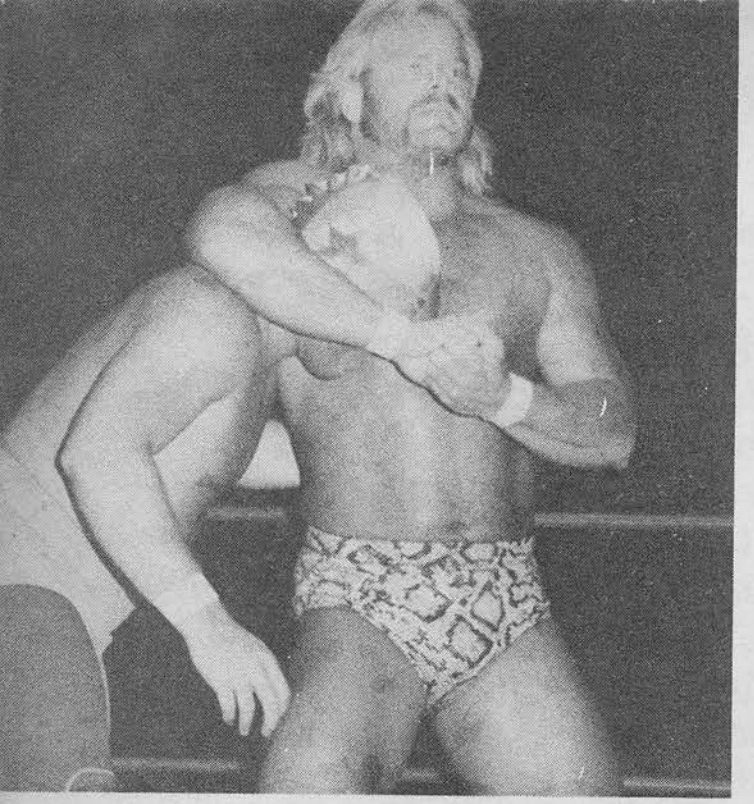
Kevin Sullivan and his devil-worshipping family are gone, but don't be fooled. There's still plenty of mat mayhem in the Sunshine State. Steve Keirn and Stan Lane, the Fabulous Ones, are waging a wrestling war against Sir Oliver Humperdinck and his two tag teams. If Kendo Nagasaki and his protege, the Ninja, aren't trying to cripple the Fabulous Ones, then the Nightmare are. Both teams have learned well under Humperdinck's greasy guidance. The really amazing thing is that Lane and Keirn are still in one piece. All three teams are after the prestigous United States Tag Team Title, which is still vacant.

Jesse Barr is out, but Bob Roop is in. That's right, Bob Roop, not Maha Sing. Moreover, Roop can't remember ever being part of Sullivan's twisted world. Bob, however, is as evil as ever.

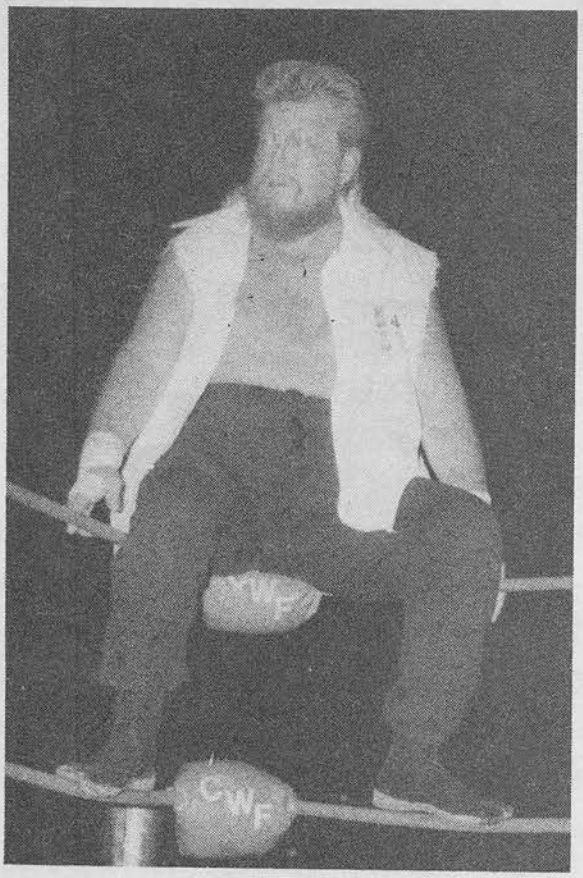
On the side of right, the Windhams are both here in Florida. Kendall has recently won the Florida belt. Barry Windham is after the Southern Championship (held by Lex Lugar). Wahoo McDaniel has been sidelined, but will return shortly. Tyree Pride, the Bahamas Champion, is becoming a hometown hero with the folks here.



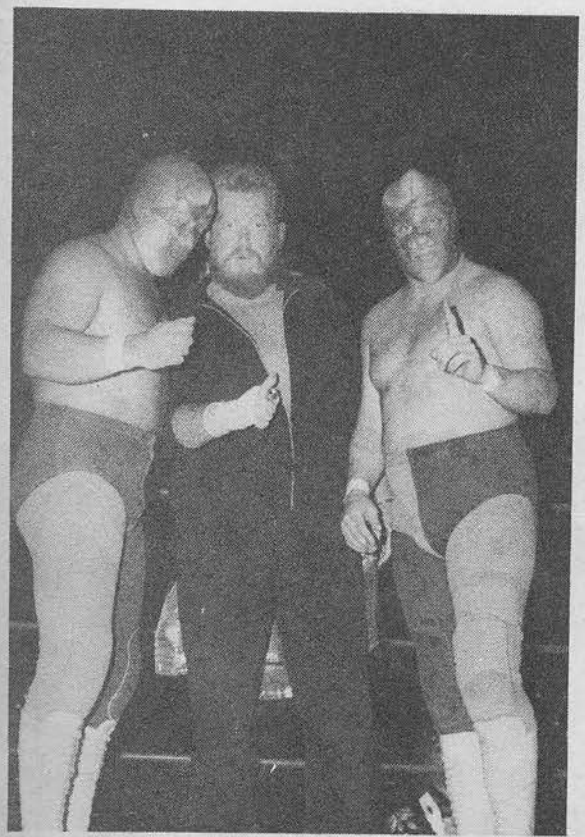
Kendo Nagazaki (L) and the Ninja with Humperdinck.



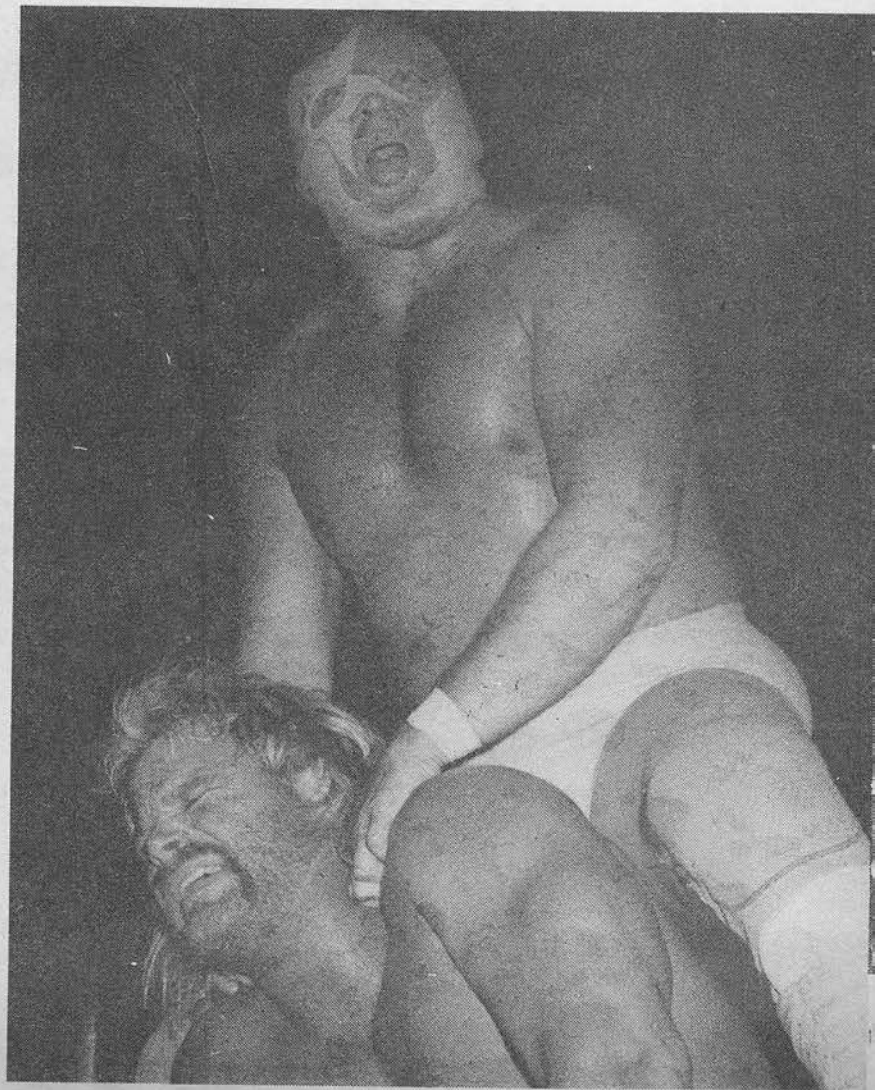
Stan Lane puts a headlock on one of the Nightmares.



Sir Oliver Humperdinck is a most unpopular guy in the Sunshine State.



The Nightmares with their leader. Sir Oliver Humperdinck.



Nightmare #1 applies a neck claw on Lane.
The Nightmares are part of Humperdinck's wicked army.

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FAN CLUB COLUMN

By Jim Ross

The Wrestling Fans International Association is pleased to be a regular contributor to one of the top major newsstand wrestling magazines—THE WRESTLING EYE. This column will not only serve to update our current membership on latest developments within the organization, but will also help to inform all FANS of the progress that is being made within the great sport of Pro-Wrestling. The entire staff at WRESTLING EYE, along with everyone at W.F.I.A., strongly believe that "Rasslin' Fans Are The Essential Ingredient" and this can only mean the best in visual communications in the months to come.

The W.F.I.A. has selected Houston, Texas as the site of Convention '86! The convention will be held from August 6th through 9th, and promises to be one of the most successful ever held. Convention headquarters will be at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL, located convenient to Houston's International Airport. In addition, AMERICAN AIRLINES has been selected as the OFFICIAL AIRLINE CARRIER for the Houston event; AVIS RENT-A-CAR will assist with the W.F.I.A. members' transportation needs. All are providing substantial discounts for those attending the convention.

As in the past, many special events are being planned for the '86 Convention. These include:

1. A 'RING EVENT' allowing members to enter the squared circle and develop a "feel" for the sport. We plan on having representatives from Pro-Wrestling schools present to supply instruction, if desired. This will also provide an opportunity, for those who are interested, to make their "Rasslin' Debut".
2. A wrestling card is scheduled on the evening of August 8th. An additional card will be held in New Orleans the evening of August 9th. Arrangements are being made with AMERICAN AIRLINES to provide service to New Orleans for those interested.
3. A 'Poolside, Texas-Style BBQ' will be held after the Friday evening card, where it will be possible to meet and talk with some of the wrestlers in a pleasant atmosphere.
4. Video Marathon—bring your favorite VHS tape and enjoy sharing it with others on the 'Big Screen'.
5. Membership Meeting and Awards Banquet. Over forty awards will be presented at the banquet including: Most Popular Wrestler, Best Sales & Best Display Exhibits, and Best Fan Club Publications (in their respective categories of General, Honorary, and Results), and Best Pro & Amateur Photographers (Posed & Action shots).
6. Exhibits & Displays of much sought-after wrestling memorabilia.
7. Auction & Raffle.

The first quarterly edition of WRESTLING FAN NEWS has been mailed to the membership and includes a very interesting article on WRESTLING EYE Editor Mike Bellew. The W.F.I.A. publication also includes the complete listing of Affiliated Fan Clubs which we are also making available to all readers of WRESTLING EYE. These Fan Clubs have proven themselves by meeting affiliation requirements as well as providing that special 'service' to FANS of Pro-Wrestling. We strongly recommend that you contact any of these Affiliated Fan Clubs for quality material.

The W.F.I.A. has recently released its Fan Club Guidebook entitled "GETTING STARTED". There are many of you who have always wanted to start a Fan Club and there now exists the book which can get you started on the right track. This complete guidebook is available through W.F.I.A. Headquarters for $5.00.

Candid wrestling shots like this are available from Greg Price. For a list of photographs for sale write: Price, 714 Fairview Road, Indian Trails, NC 28079.

Memberships in the W.F.I.A. are still being accepted for 1986. You will receive a membership card and certificate (suitable for framing) along with the outstanding quarterly publication—WRESTLING FAN NEWS. U.S. membership is $16. and Foreign membership is $20. (U.S. Currency). We will be happy to forward our membership brochure to those requiring more information. Include one (22¢) stamp when making your inquiry for a membership brochure.

Look for our W.F.I.A. REPORT in the next issue of WRESTLING EYE. Meanwhile, you may forward your inquiries to the following address:

W.F.I.A. HEADQUARTERS
BOX 451
FREEPORT, IL 61032-0451

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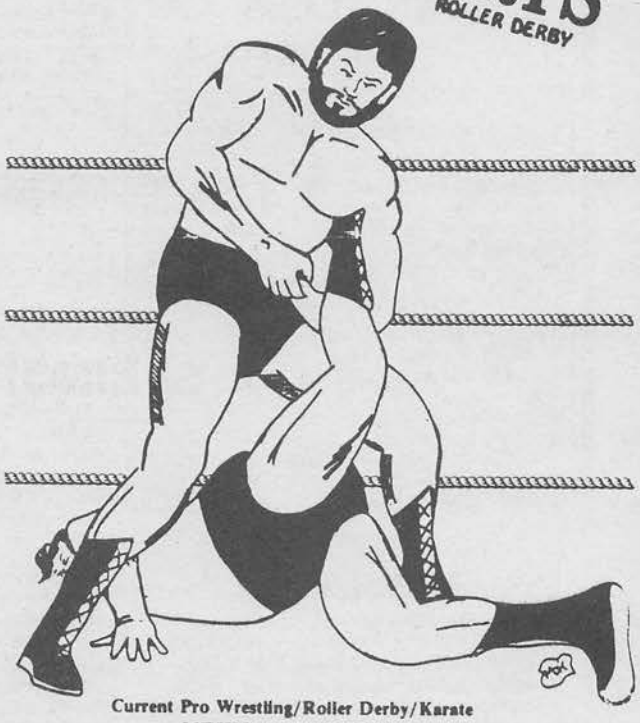

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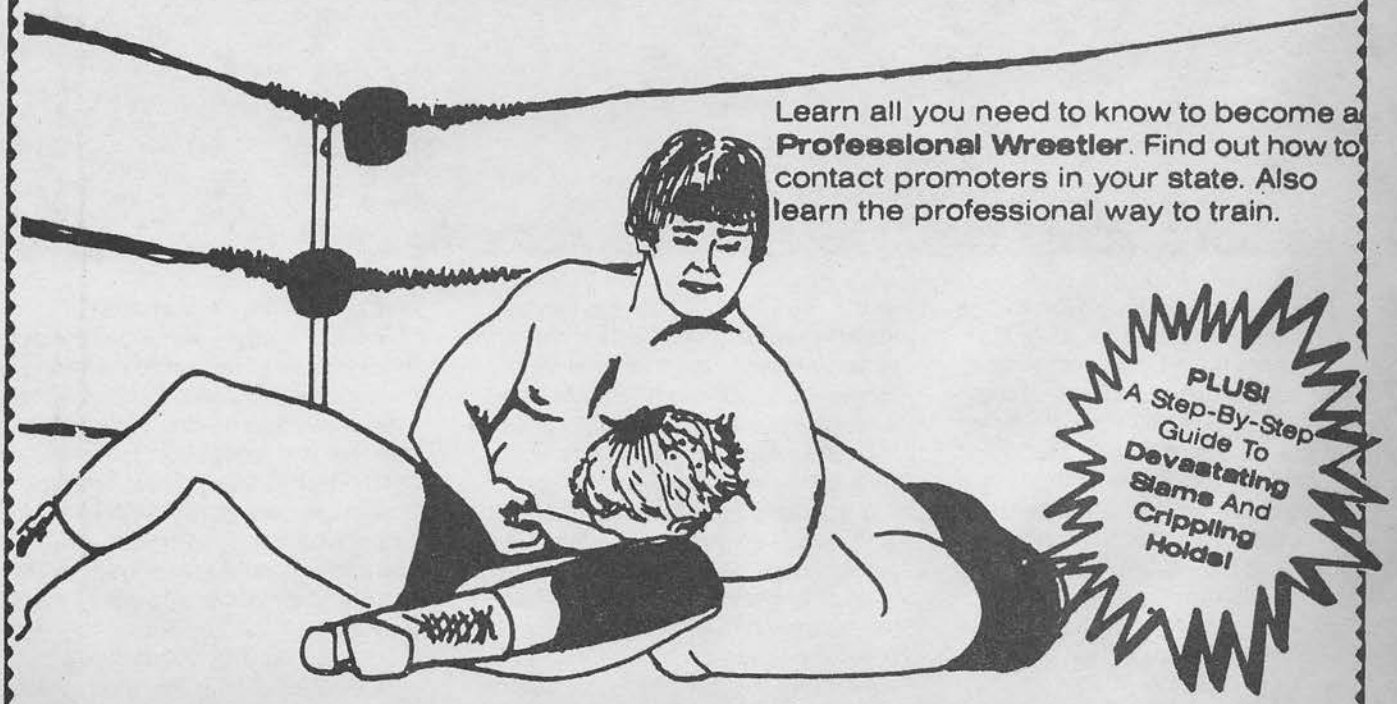

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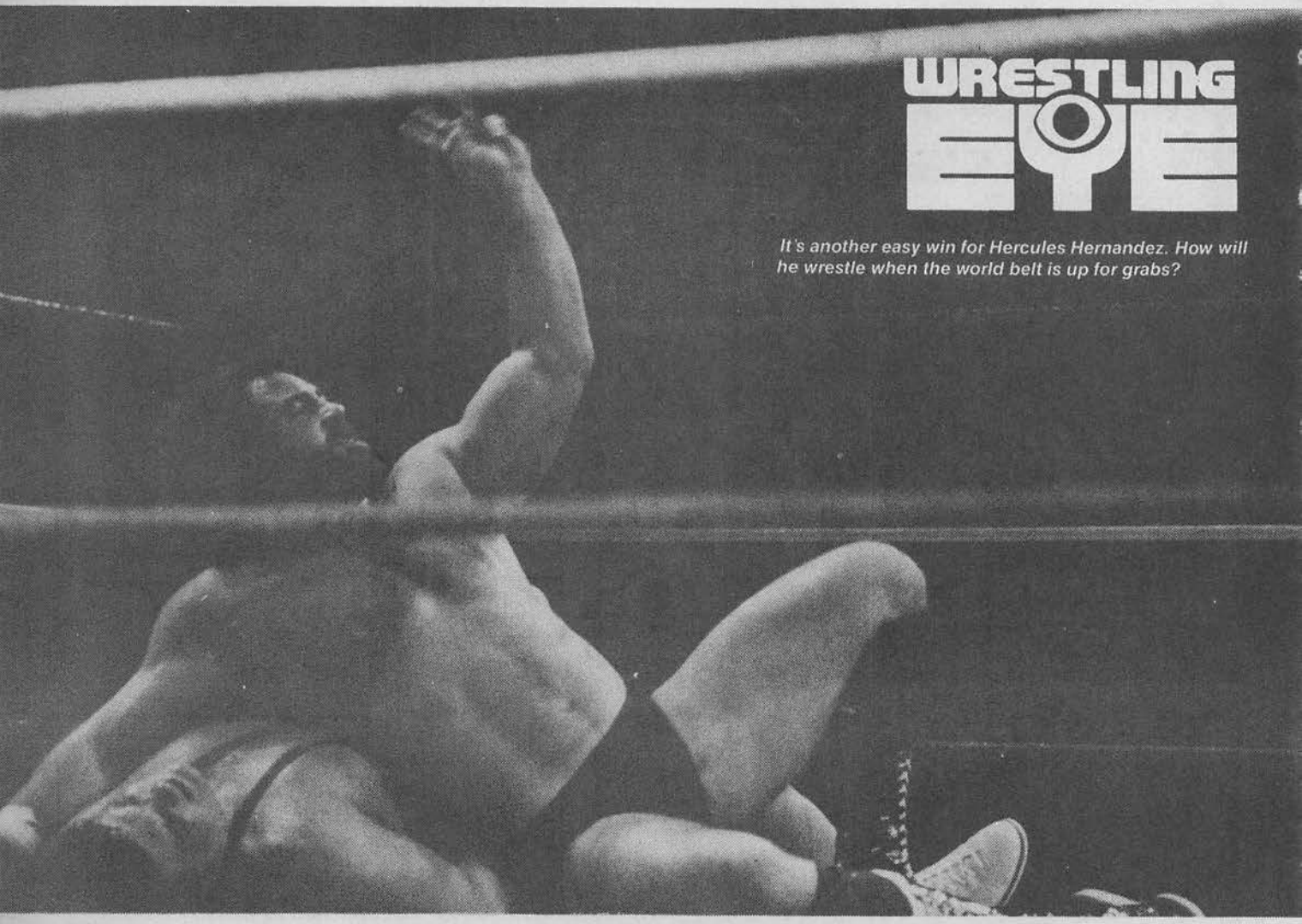
HERCULES HERNANDEZ

A REAL THREAT TO HULK-A-MANIA

By Mike Bellew



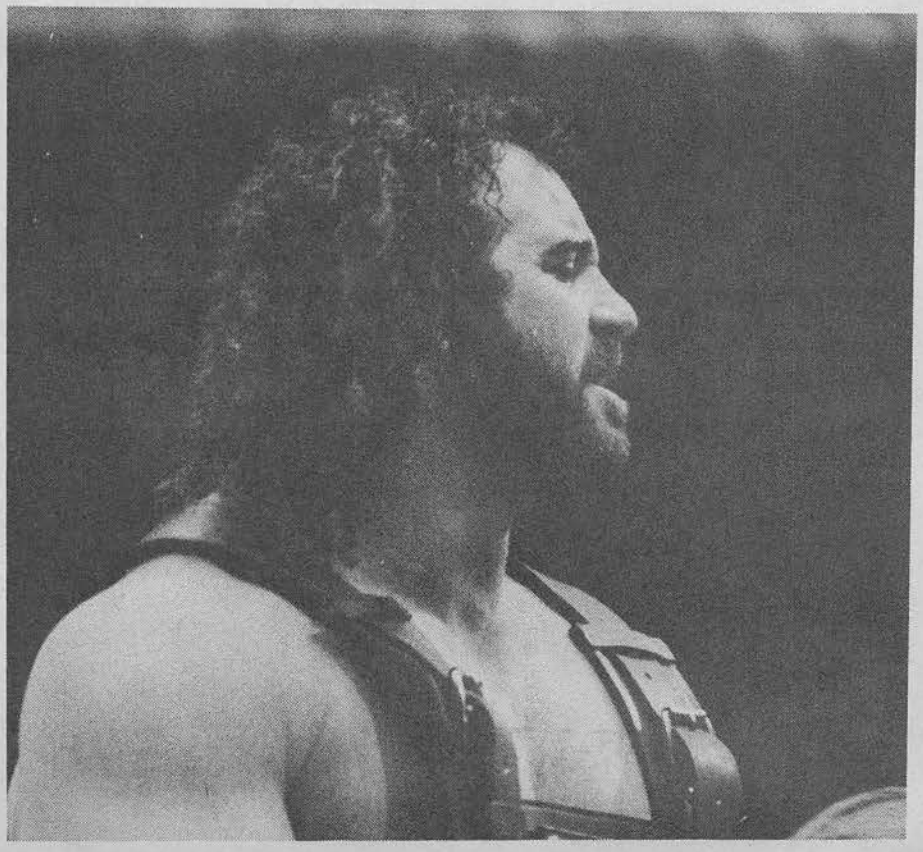
It's another easy win for Hercules Hernandez. How will he wrestle when the world belt is up for grabs?

For awhile now, Hulk Hogan has had it pretty easy. Sure, all of his opponents have been world class. No one can argue with the abilities and dangerous potential of Terry Funk, King Kong Bundy, Randy 'Macho Man' Savage or the Magnificent Muraco. However, these men come from the old-school of wrestling. Everything they do has been video-taped and played for Hulk Hogan before they ever meet. The WWF champ probably knows these wrestlers as well as he knows his own name.

The one man new enough and different enough to be dangerous to the 6'8" world champ is Hercules Hernandez. The hefty Hispanic is an unknown quantity to Hulk Hogan. The champ has seen him in action against preliminary boys like Steve Roman and Marco Polo; he's even eyewitnessed his opening matches against second-string S.D. Jones and Rene Goulet. But what Hogan doesn't know is, what can he expect from this guy when the belt is on the line? Naturally Hernandez will be at his best, but what does that mean? Is his standing backbreaker the peak of his wrestling skills, or does he have other unbreakable submission holds waiting for the champ?

Making matters worse is the fact that Hercules Hernandez is being managed by Freddie Blassie—the man who once guided Hulk Hogan. No one knows Hulk Hogan better than Blassie does. Imagine how many secrets the WWF champ revealed to Freddie when both were on the same team? With a brute like Hernandez doing his dirty work, Freddie Blassie is the man that could close the book on Hulk-A-Mania. Hulk Hogan's wrestling style hasn't changed much from the days when Freddie Blassie shouted encouragement in his

Managed by Freddie Blassie, Hercules has inside information on the champ. Hulk Hogan was once guided by the same manager.



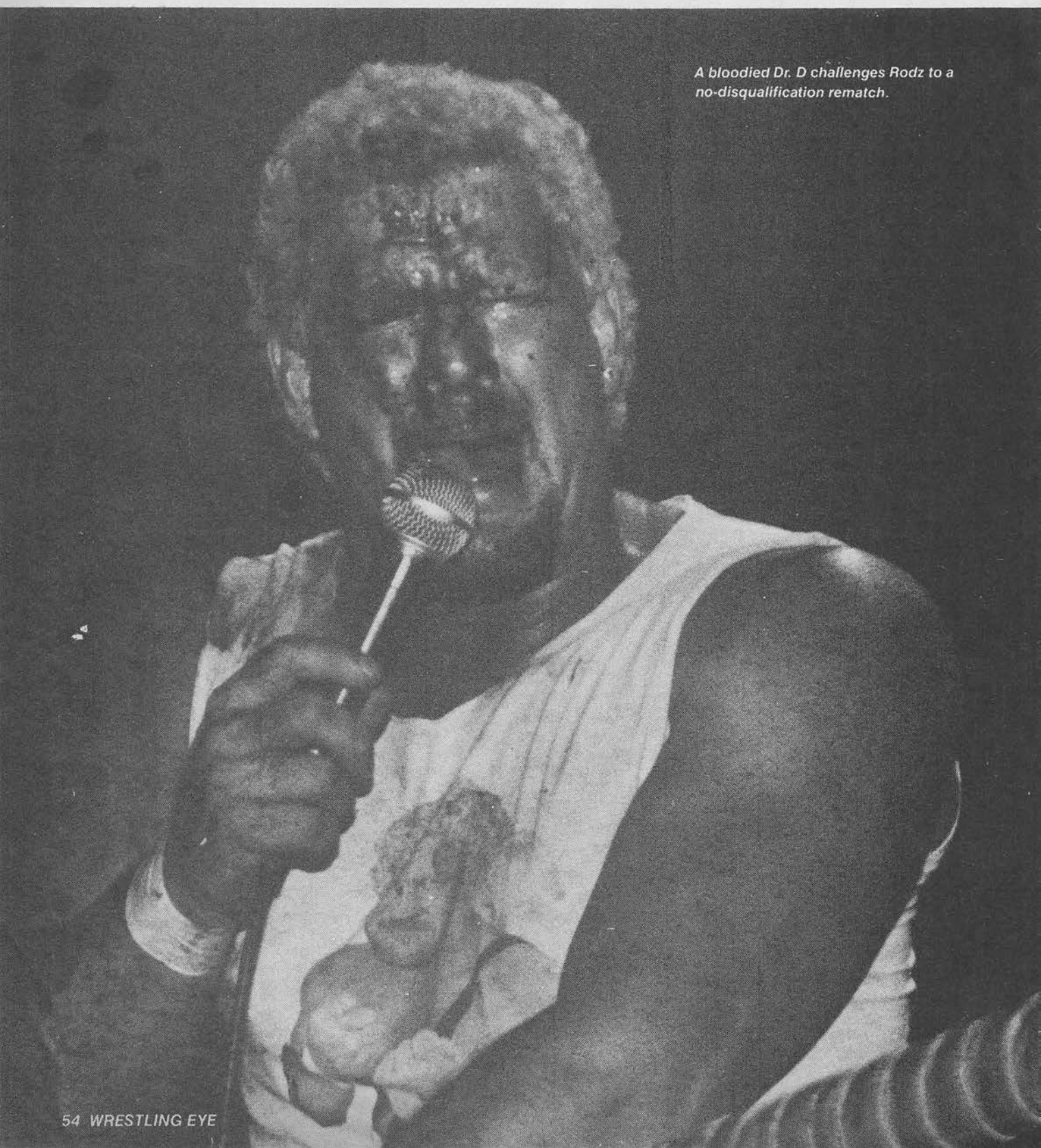
Of all the wrestlers in the WWF, Hernandez is the biggest threat to Hulk Hogan's reign.

corner. Blassie takes full credit for teaching Hogan the leg-drop and Atomic-kneedrop. Hulk left Freddie's stable when the manager was unable to get his wrestler another crack at Bob Backlund's WWF championship. Hogan felt he was just one more match away from wearing down the then-title-holder. Blassie may have believed the same, but he wanted Nikita Koloff to get the next crack at Backlund.

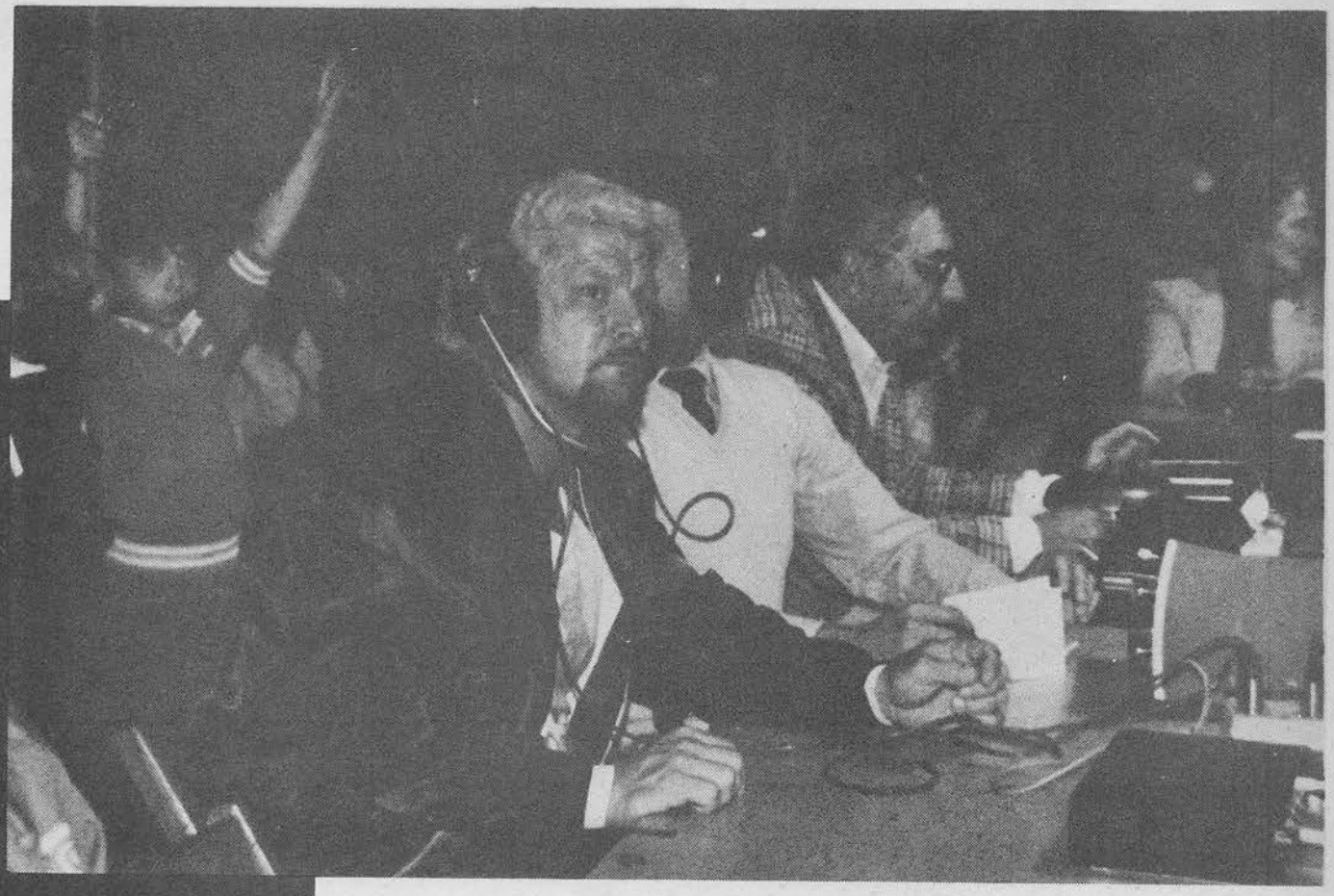
People close to both men claim Blassie believed that Koloff was easier to control than the independent Hulk Hogan. Blassie, it's said, just wanted Hogan to soften the champ for Nikita. It is this betrayal by his manager which may have led to Hogan becoming a 'good guy'. In turn, nothing would please Blassie more than to manage the man who will lift the championship from Hulk. Hercules Hernandez may just be the man.

DAVID 'DR. D' SCHULTZ

Mean As They Come!



A bloodied Dr. D challenges Rodz to a no-disqualification rematch.



Dr. D puts his expert knowledge to use behind the mike. Schultz is doing color commentary for the Eastern Wrestling Alliance.

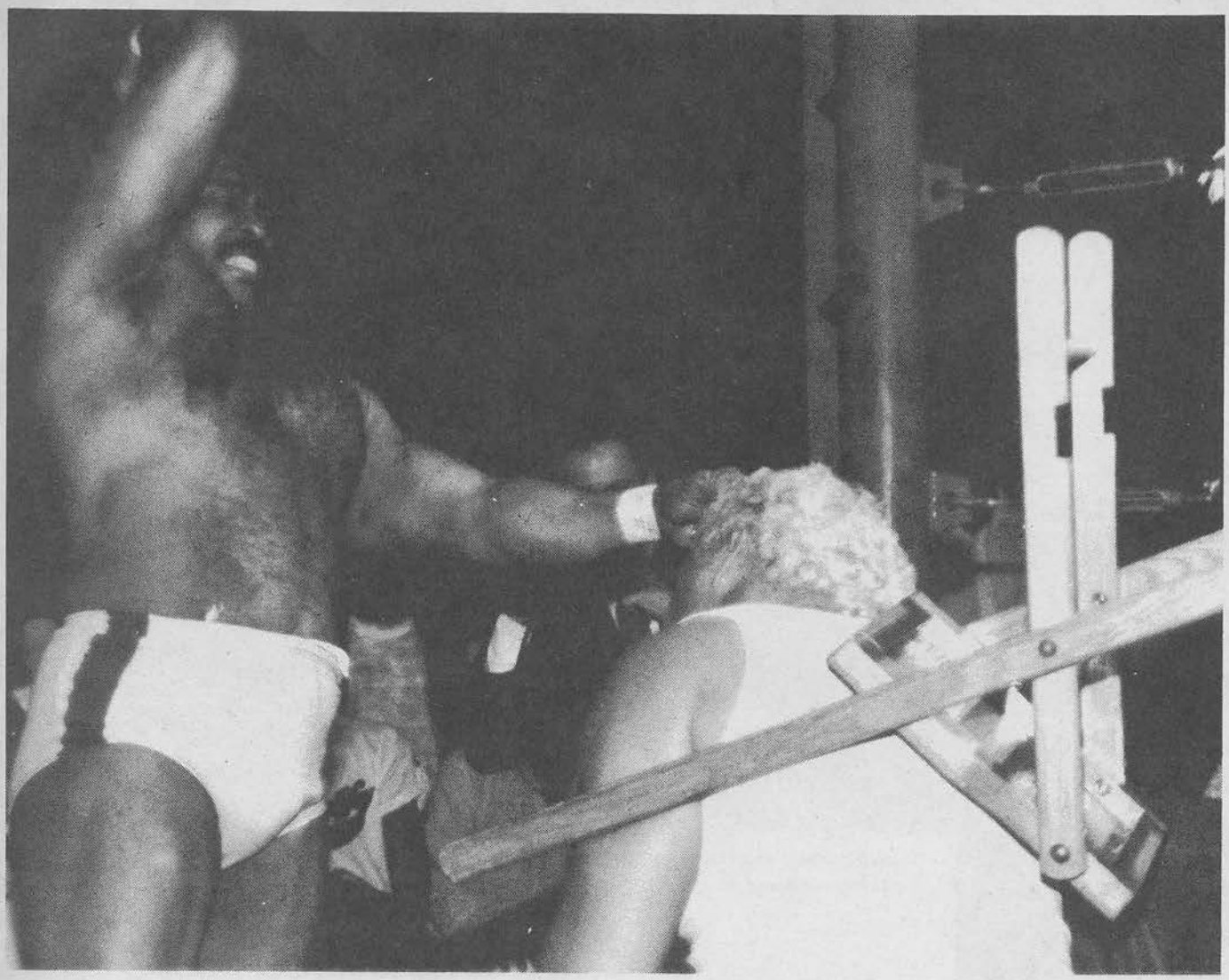
by Mike Bellew

When little kids misbehave in Memphis, parents no longer threaten them with the 'Boogie Man'. Instead, annoyed moms and dads warn their offspring—"If you don't quiet down, Dr. D. will get you!" That's usually enough to scare anyone.

The 6'5", 267-pound 'Dr. D' isn't a man to fool with. He takes himself and his profession very seriously; ask '20/20' reporter John Stossel! The vicious Schultz vs. Stessel confrontation was undoubtedly the biggest news of 1985. 'Good Guy' David Schultz defending the thing (wrestling) he believed in, against Jimmy Hart-look-alike John Stossel. Although he isn't eager to talk about the impromptu brawl, Schultz would like to clarify what actually happened. According to the wrestler, John Stossel did not ask him whether or not wrestling was a fake.

"What really happened was, the guy (Stossel) walked up to me and SAID that my sport was a fake. How would you feel if someone walked up to you and called you a phony?" Upset, Schultz then slapped Stossel twice on the side of the face. "I didn't slap him on the ears, I slapped him on the face. Video tapes prove I'm right. Nobody's going to call me a phony anymore."

Another misconception is that the Stossel-Schultz incident led to Dr. D being dismissed from the WWF. Schultz wasn't fired by the WWF for striking Stossel (the NY State Athletic Commission did fine and suspended him. The suspension was later lifted). The Tennessee-born wrestler was fired after he swung at Mr. T in Los Angeles, CA. Schultz claims the TV-actor made a rude remark to him in the dressing room. Dr. D threw a punch, and the following day, he



With his arms pinned to his sides by a folding chair, Schultz is a hapless victim for Johnny Rodz.

was fired. "I think the WWF has a policy of protecting certain people and treating fan favorites differently," said he. Schultz points out that Hulk Hogan was never fired or fined for busting open the head of TV-host Richard Belzer.

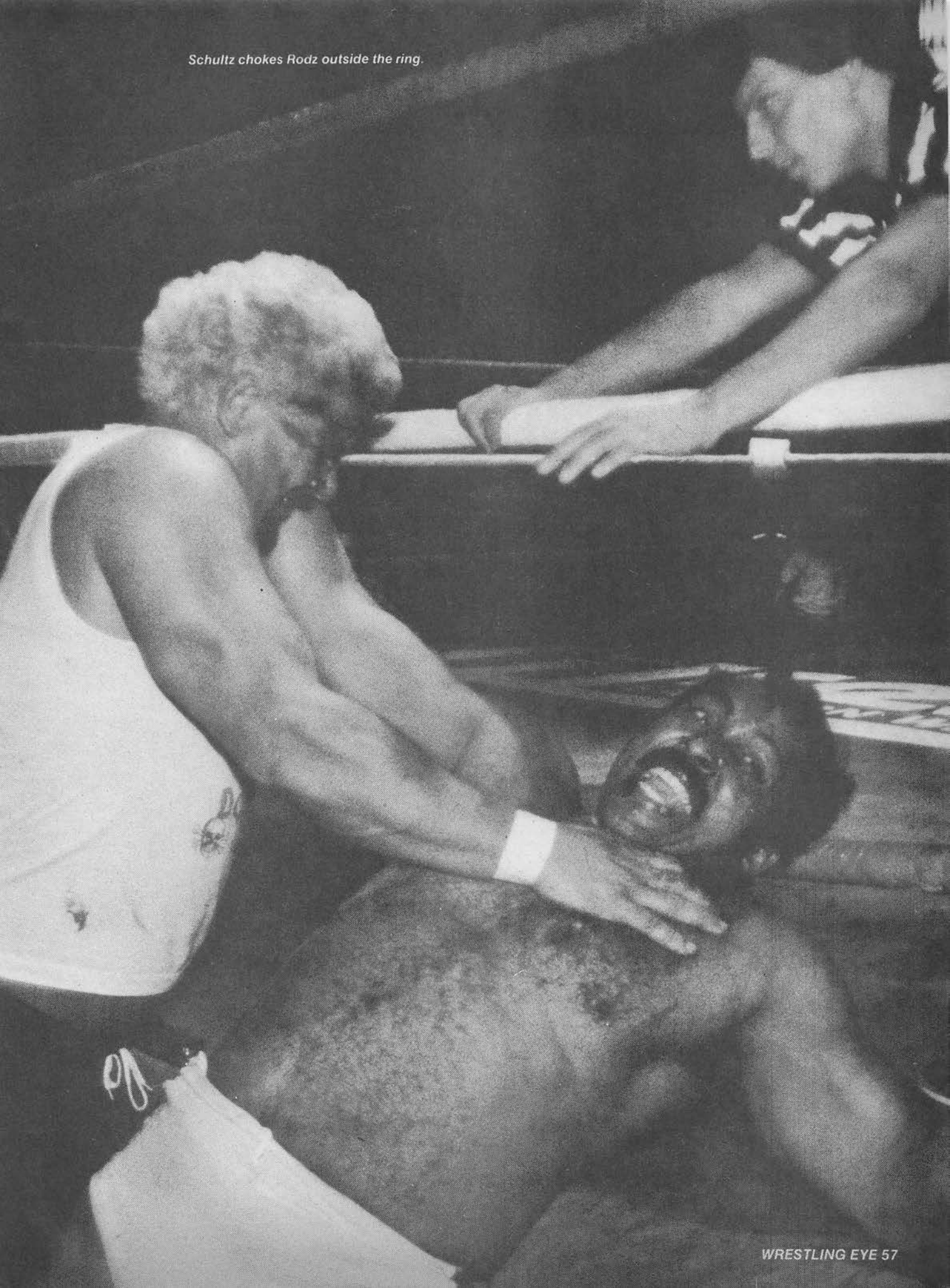
Leaving the WWF, Schultz toured Japan for a short and rebellious time. Over there, he clashed with wrestling announcer Ichiro Furutachi. The commentator must have said something that didn't agree with Dr. D, because Schultz walloped Furutachi too. Back in the United States, Schultz didn't find any promoters too eager to sign him. "Wrestlers were screaming to the promoter not to let me wrestle. The promoters were scared for their wrestlers' safety." Dr. D wrestled Ric Flair for the NWA world's heavyweight championship and returned to the Memphis mat wars.

Today, the shoe is on the other foot. Schultz is doing the color commentary along with Jules Strongbow for the Eastern Wrestling Alliance. His announcing style is nasty, and sometimes biting. However, Dr. D is a fine judge of wrestling talent. If the wrestlers aren't putting out 100%, he'll make it clear to his TV viewers. Schultz is honest in his remarks, which is a big change over other sports commentators. Aside from his work at the mike, Schultz is hot on the grappling trail of EWA world champ, The Cheetah Kid.

"Schultz says I'm avoiding him," says the defending champ. "That's not true at all. He just hasn't reached the #1 spot yet. There are other contenders I must wrestle first. When he's earned the right to face me, then I'll wrestle him."

Whether or not Schultz is 'officially' qualified to wrestle the EWA champ is debatable. Other than Stossel, Mr. T and Furutachi, Dr. D has clobbered Johnny Rodz and Sgt. Slaughter in the EWA. Those wins alone would have earned him title matches in other leagues. The Cheetah Kid doesn't agree. "That could be true elsewhere. However, in the EWA there are many worthy wrestlers. I will fight Schultz when he is proven."

When that day comes, The Cheetah Kid had better be set for a war unlike any he has seen. Taunting an unpredictable wildman like Schultz with words like 'unproven' is like waving a cape in front of a menacing bull.



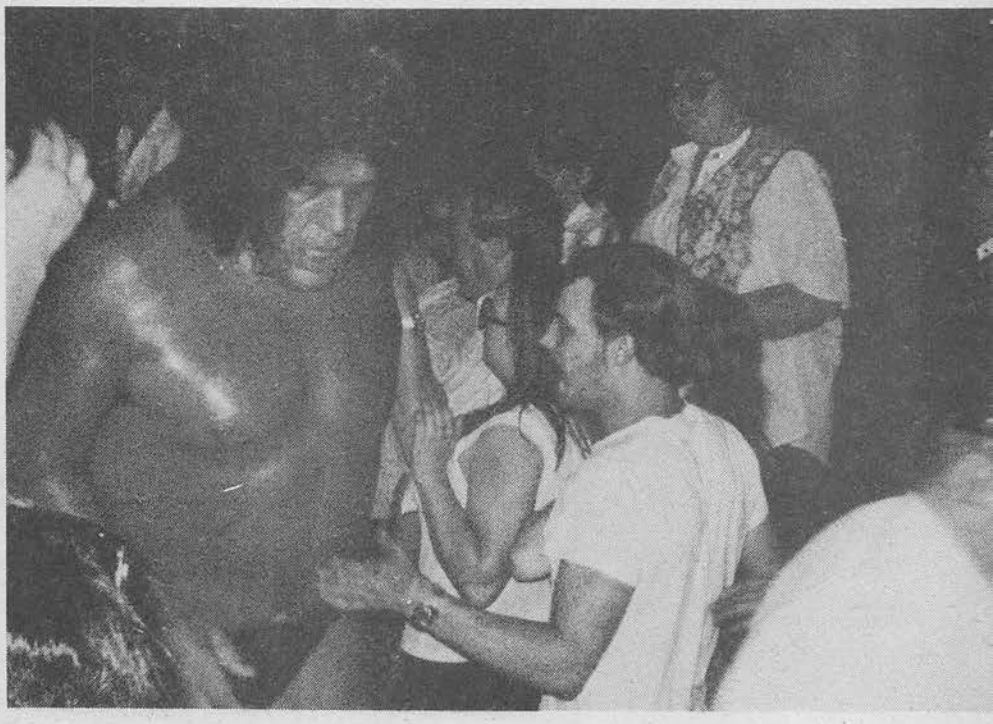
Schultz chokes Rodz outside the ring.

THE PHANTOM OF THE RING

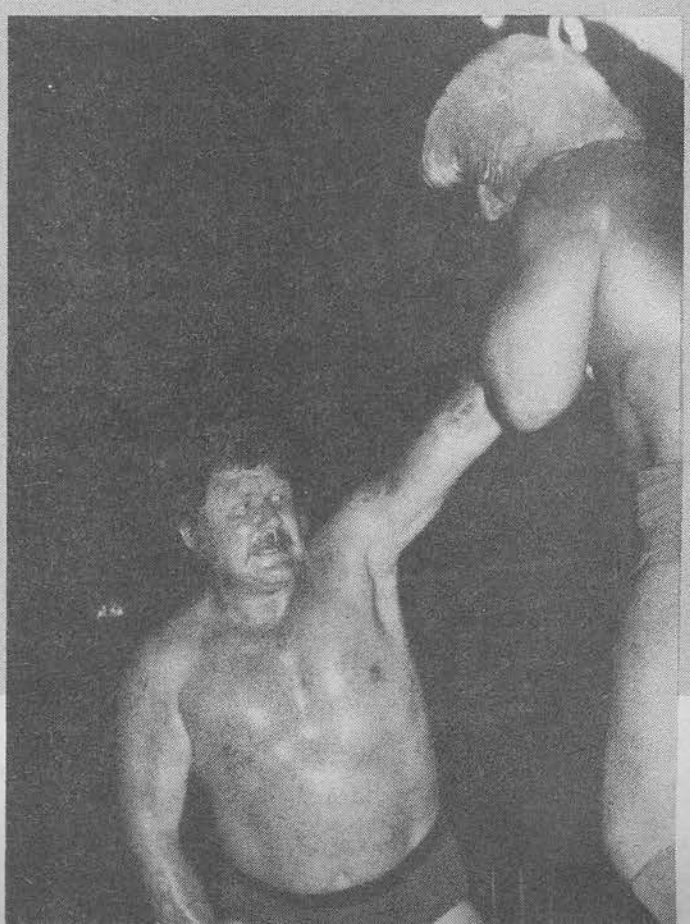
The Phantom is carefully watching the bizarre situation developing between Bobby 'The Brain' Heenan and Andre The Giant. Much ado is being made that Heenan has yet to have any success in the WWF. At the same time, Bobby has pressed WWF President Jack Tunney to suspend Andre The Giant for not meeting his contractual commitments against Bundy and Studd. Our informants at Titan Sports have said Andre will be blackmailed into going 'bad' by the luckless manager. Then, the 7'4" Giant will turn on Lou Albano and challenge Hulk Hogan for the world belt. Andre going bad is a frightening possibility. It's like an elephant catching distemper.

Speaking of distemper, Bob 'Ace' Orton Jr. was arrested again. The charges this time were third degree assault and second-degree property damage in St. Louis, MO. Orton was riding in a cab, when he over-heard another cab driver call Bob a dirty name over the CB. Outraged 'Ace' demanded his driver tell him the name of the other cabbie. When his driver refused, Bob kicked the cab and assaulted him. Name-calling has also FINALLY gotten to Randy 'Macho Man' Savage. Fresno fans were heckling Elizabeth, when 'Macho Man' swung at the group. By accident, he hit a 14 year-old girl. The California Police have filed misdemeanor assault charges against the Intercontinental Champ.

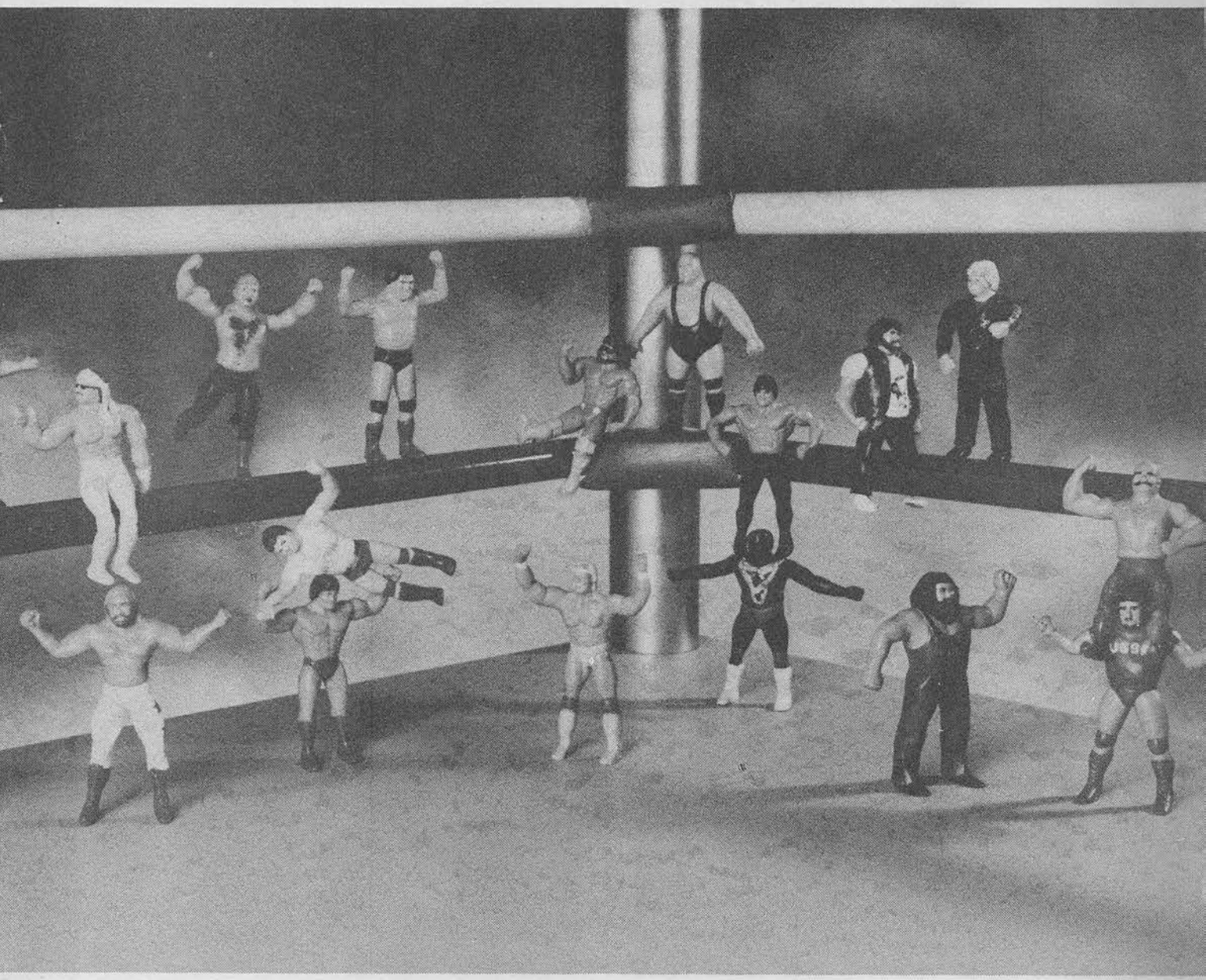
The NWA Mid-Atlantic area is certainly hurting for some new faces. Magnum TA and Dusty Rhodes are doubling-up their ring time as the masked James Boys. Clearly, you need more than 10 wrestlers to keep things exciting. It's hard to understand why Rhodes and Magnum TA would use the song 'Midnight Rider' as the James Boys' theme song. Everyone knows Rhodes was the 'Midnight Rider' two years ago and Rhodes' chubby silhouette is



Fan favorite Andre The Giant is about to surprise his fans. Don't blame us, blame manager Bobby 'The Brain' Heenan.



Handsome Harley Race is in the WWF, and no one is mentioning his days as NWA champion. (Photo by Gene Gordon)



The latest WWF dolls are flexible—an improvement over the big-sized originals.

unique in the Mid-Atlantic. Cornette has a $50,000 offer to anyone who can unmask the James Boys. NWA President Bob Geigel has ruled that only if Cornette can prove that the James Boys are Magnum and Rhodes, will any of their future wins over the World tag team champions, the Midnight Express, be reversed. So, it's up to Jim Cornette to prove something we all already know.

As the Flair-Morton matches fade away into the sunset, the Road Warriors are being pushed as Ric's next challengers.

As we said in an earlier Media Report, the WWF is copywriting their wrestlers' names. The first to suffer under this was Uncle Elmer. After his dreadful Saturday Nite Main Event against Adrian Adonis, Uncle Elmer was given his walking papers. The name stayed in the WWF, and Elmer is now wrestling as the Giant Hillbilly. What's really amazing is the way the WWF has brought back Mike Rotundo (who was working in Florida) to tag team with Danny Spivey. The two are nicknamed the 'American Express', the same name Rotundo used when he teamed with Barry Windham.

Harley Race, the six-times NWA world heavyweight champ, is in the WWF. Of course, no one is saying any more about Race's NWA days than necessary. As far as the WWF is concerned, there are no other alliances but themselves. And, they might be right. Their gates remain strong in all areas. Hulk Hogan may one day be the one and only world champion. The key to the WWF's success is Hulk Hogan. The champ can fill any arena in this country with or without a solid undercard to help him. Lord knows what will happen when Hogan retires or loses. Randy Savage may be the next best thing.

Bad luck seems to follow the Von Erich boys. Kerry Von Erich was recently injured in a motorcycle crash. The ex-NWA champ is on the mend....Nick Bockwinkel has taken the AWA title from Stan Hansen under questionable tactics.

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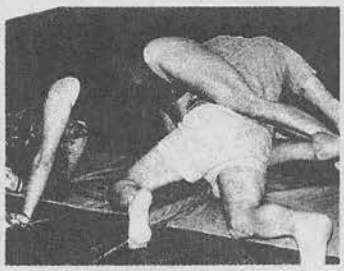
Graciella Casillas

World-Class Kick-Boxer

"Golden Cat" *"Olympia"*

Professional Wrestlers



***VIDEO VIEWS** is a new company, producing the kind of ACTION tapes readers of this magazine will surely enjoy. There are companies specializing in wrestling tapes or in bodybuilding tapes, but we plan to combine the two sports by offering video features of top-name women athletes who compete in ALL of the strength sports.

This first ad features our first two offerings, video documentaries of world-class kick-boxer/martial artist Graciella Casillas and professional wrestlers "Olympia" and the "Golden Cat".

Both tapes were shot with our professional-quality 3/4" equipment (most other companies use 1/2") for superior quality when reduced to 1/2" to play on your home video players.

In the future we hope to produce tapes on arm-wrestlers, powerlifters, bodybuilders, etc., but in order to get on our mailing list for those videos, you must buy one of these two exciting tapes, described as follows:

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VIDEO VIEWS TAPE #2: Pro wrestlers "Olympia" and "Golden Cat"—this tape runs 75 minutes (1 hour, 15 minutes) and begins with an interview, then training in the gym, followed by great wrestling action pieces, featuring mixed wrestling action and then Cat vs. Olympia. This is NOT staged apartment-house action—it is a mixture of pro/collegiate wrestling.

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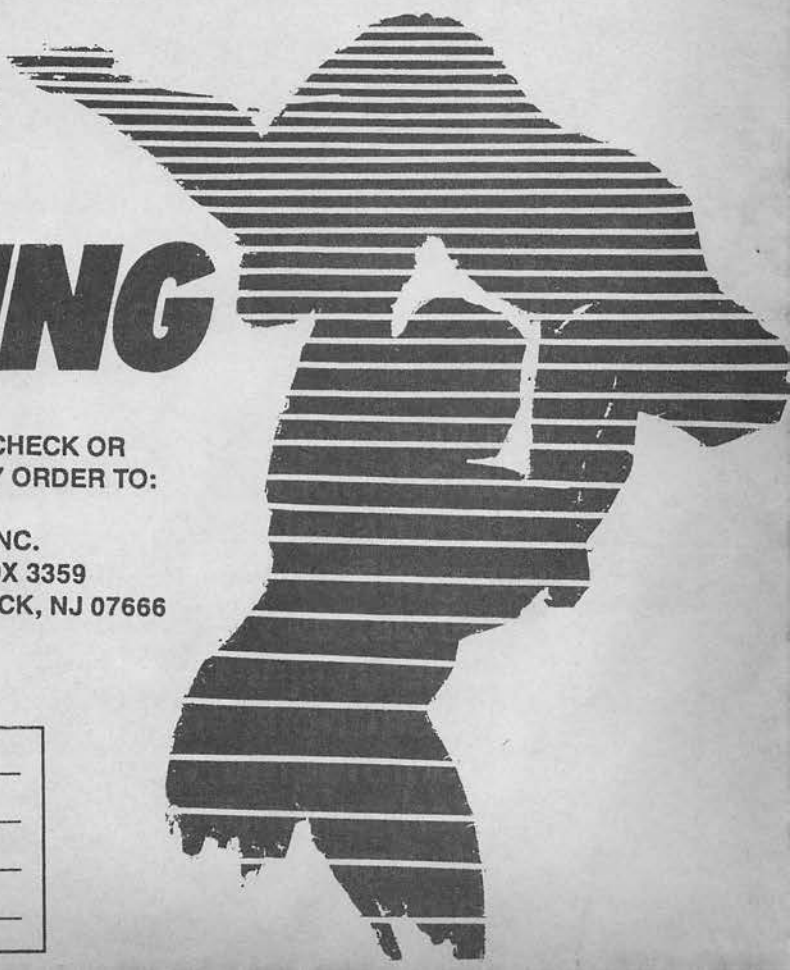

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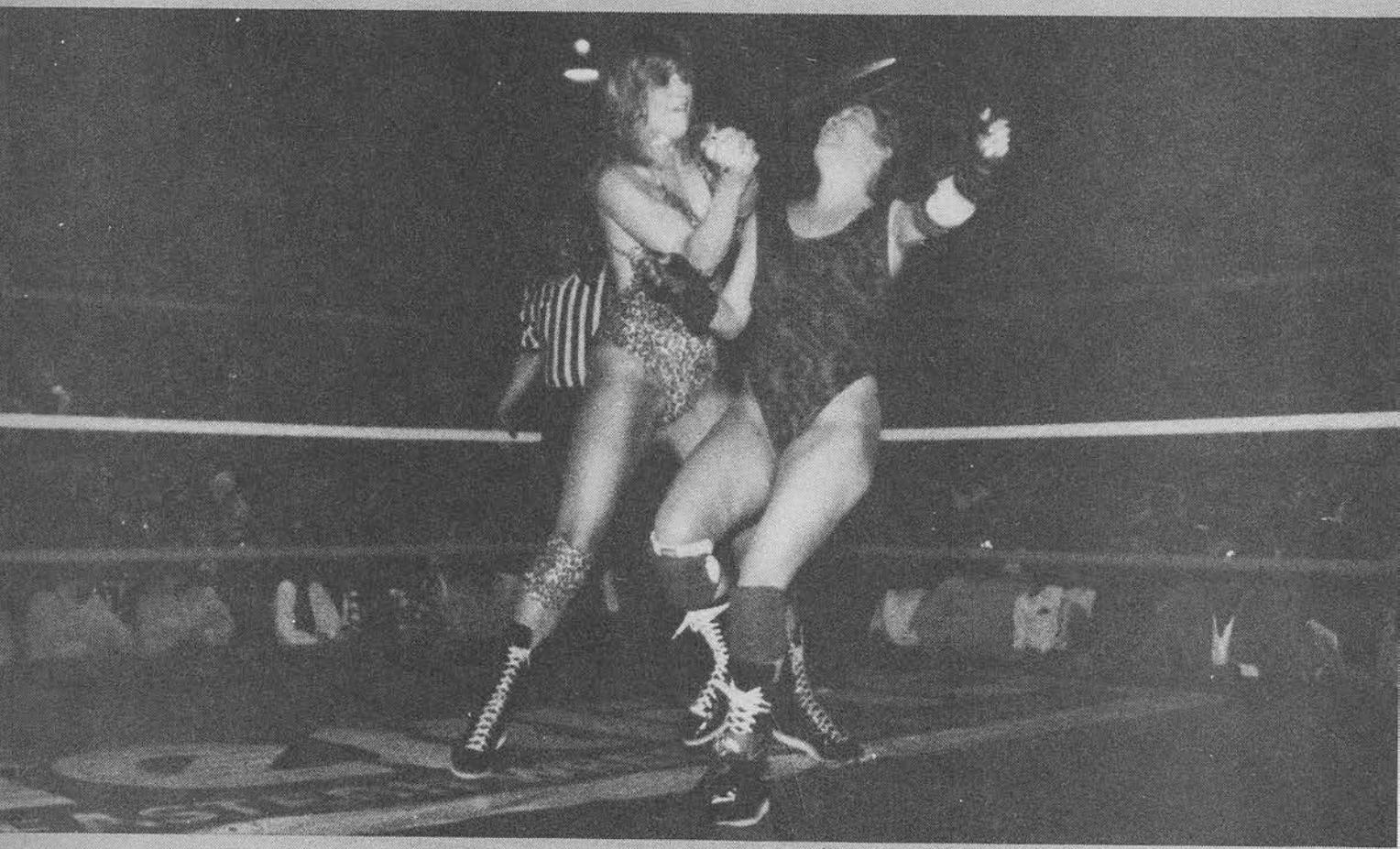
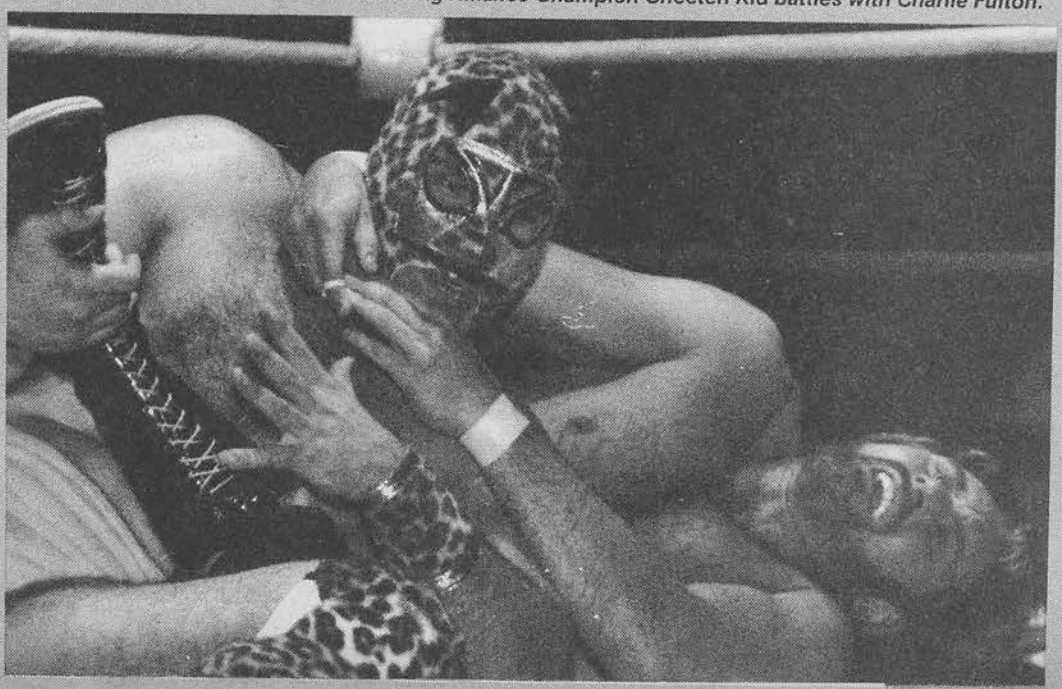
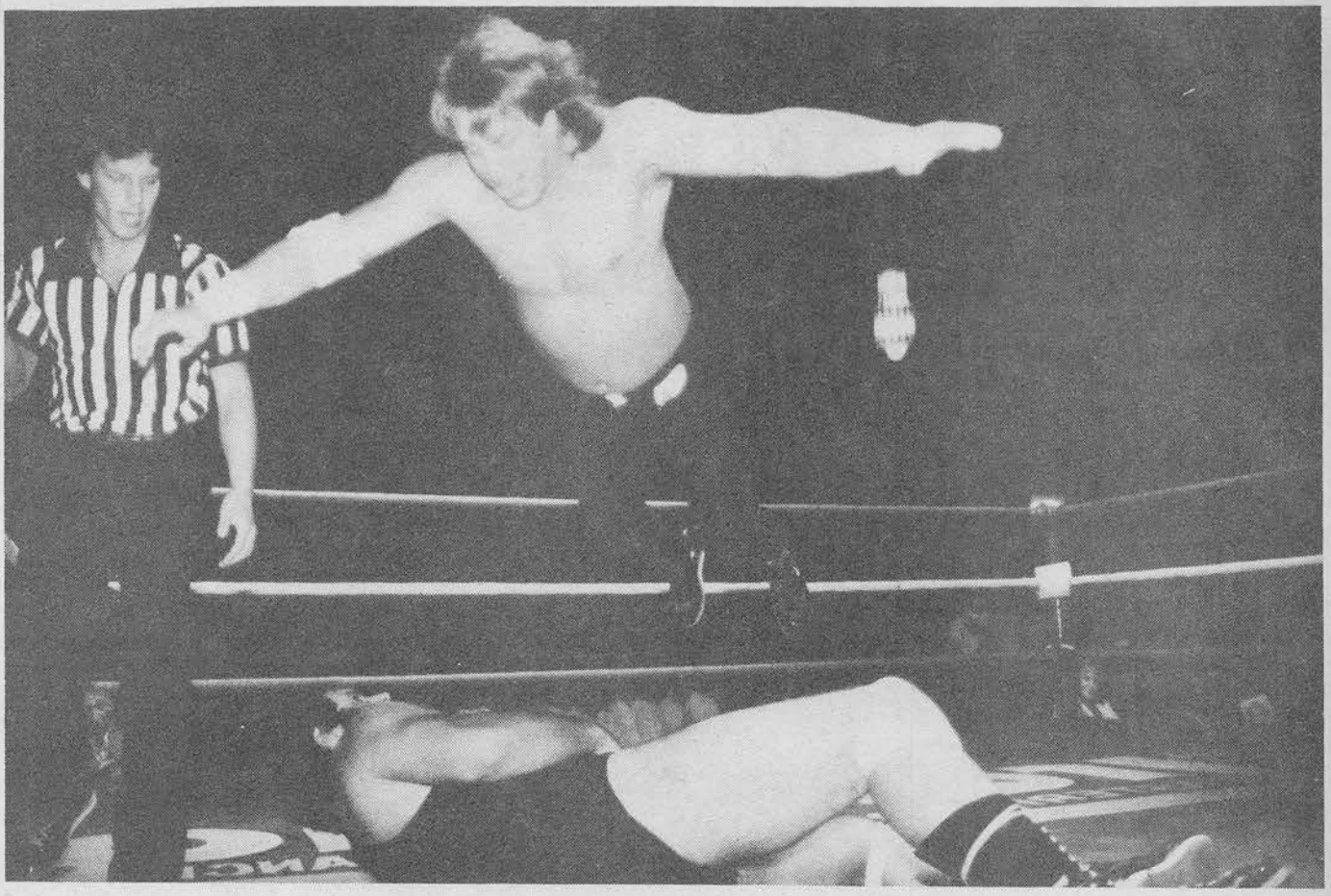


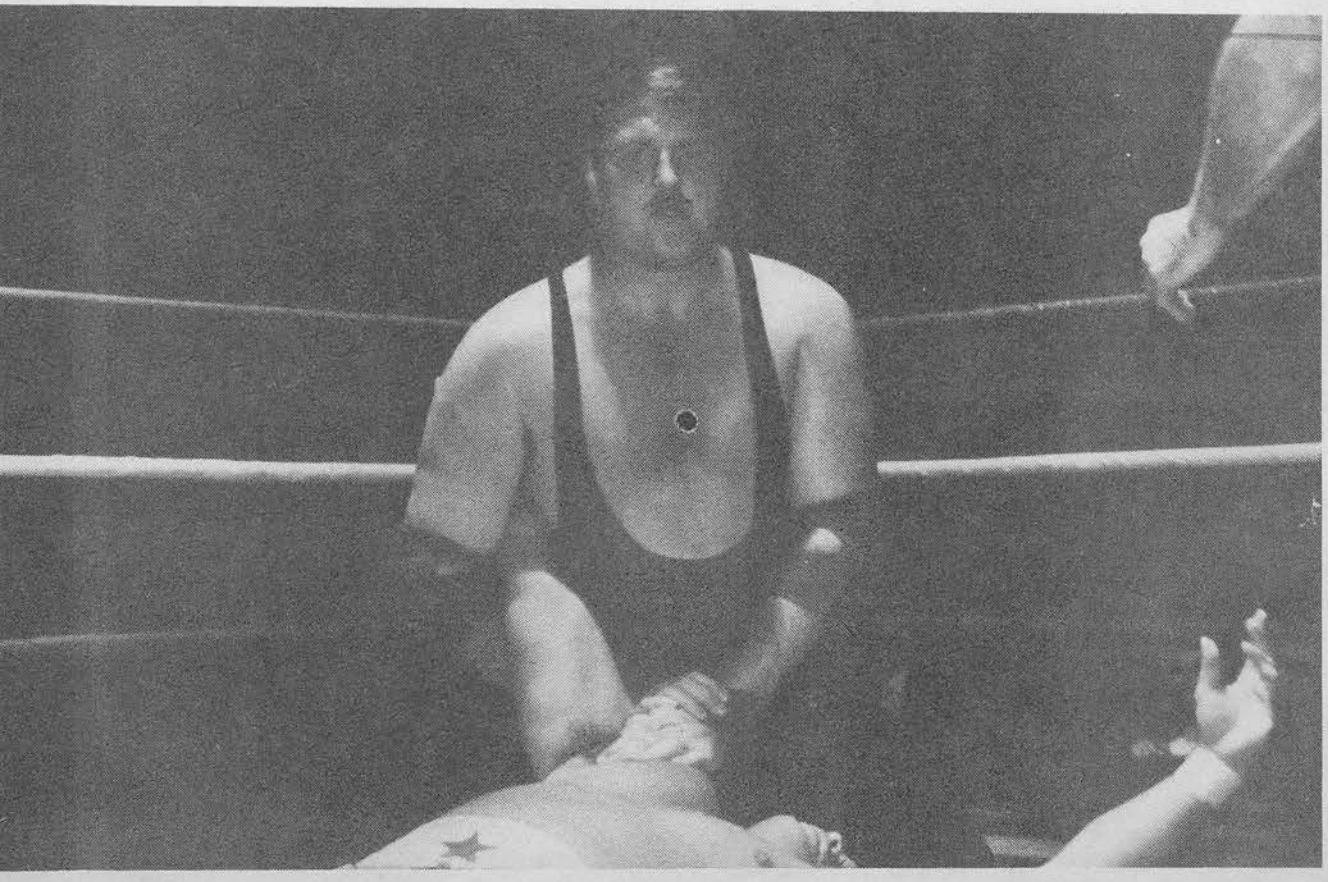
Misty Blue puts her title on the line against Linda Dallas.

Eastern Wrestling Alliance Champion Cheeteh Kid battles with Charlie Fulton.





Barry O. flys over the Hagman.



Peoples Champ Sgt. Slaughter puts an armbar on Mike Kaluha.

WRESTLING EYE'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

WRESTLING EYE

World Wrestling Federation (WWF)
Heavyweight Champion—Hulk Hogan

Contenders

1. Jake 'The Snake' Roberts
2. Randy Savage
3. Hercules Hernandez
4. Paul Orndorff
5. Ricky Steamboat
6. King Kong Bundy
7. Bob Orton Jr.
8. 'Hoss' Dory Funk Jr.
9. Harley Race
10. Magnificent Muraco

Tag Team Champions:
The British Bulldogs

American Wrestling Association (AWA)
Heavyweight Champion—Nick Bockwinkel

Contenders

1. Scott Hall
2. Boris Zuchoff
3. Bruiser Brody
4. Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka
5. Brad Rheingans
6. Curt Hennig
7. Larry Zbyszko
8. Stan Hansen
9. 'Earthquake' Ferris
10. Greg Gagne

Tag Team Champions:
Doug Sommers and
Buddy Rose

National Wrestling Alliance (NWA)
Heavyweight Champion—Dusty Rhodes

Contenders

1. Hawk
2. Ric Flair
3. Magnum TA
4. Nikita Koloff
5. Ricky Morton
6. Jimmy Valiant
7. Barry Windham
8. Lex Lugar
9. Sam Houston
10. Ronnie Garvin

Tag Team Champions:
Midnight Express

Women's Ratings
World Wrestling Federation (WWF)
World's Champion—Fabulous Moolah

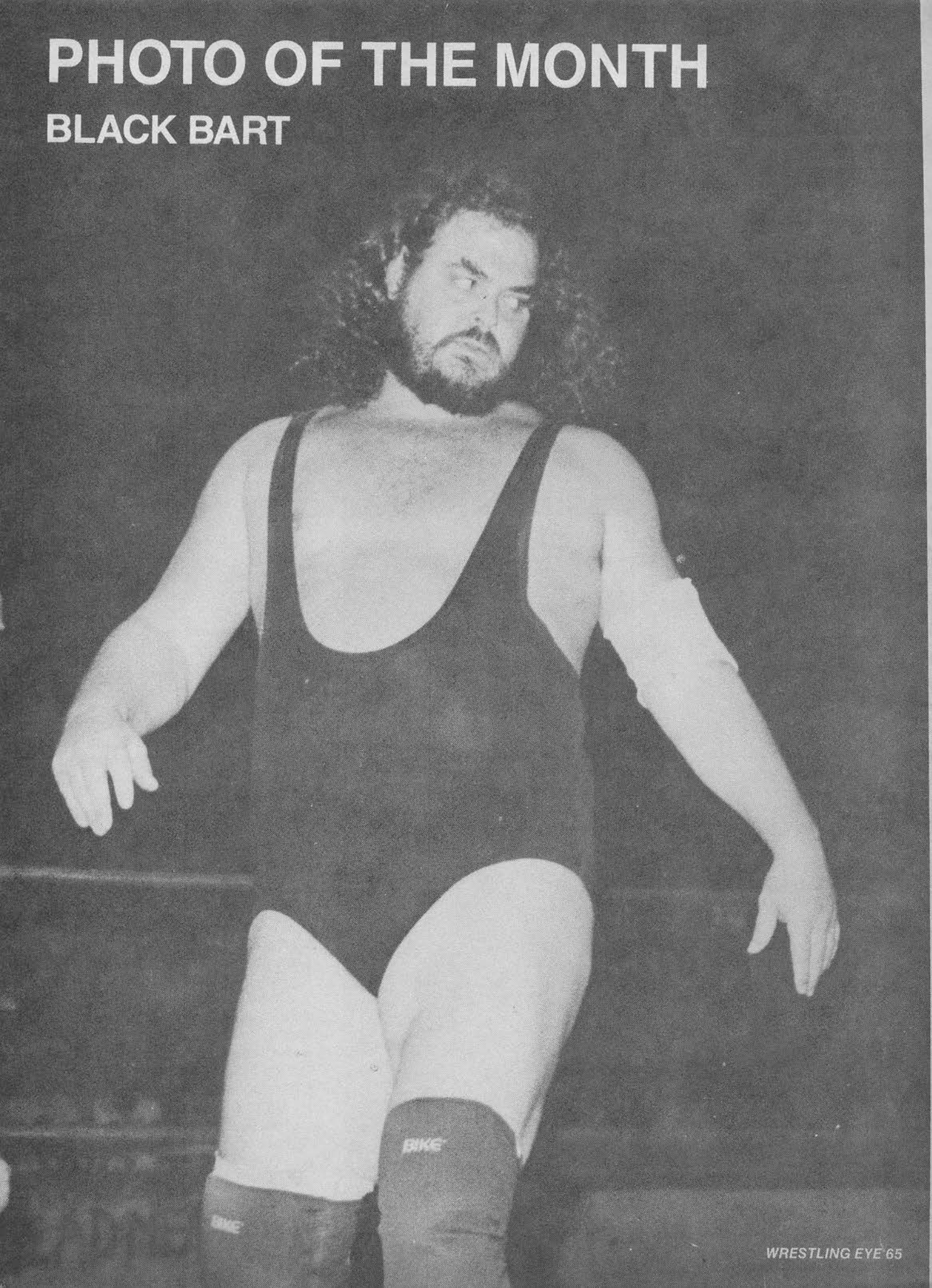
Contenders

1. Despina Montogas
2. Debbie Combs (NWA Champ)
3. Le Lani Kai
4. Candi Divine (AWA Champ)
5. Judy Martin
6. Sheri Martel
7. Liz Chase
8. Wendi Richter
9. Sue Starr
10. Debbie Daniels

Tag Team Champions:
Judy Martin and
Le Lani Kai

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

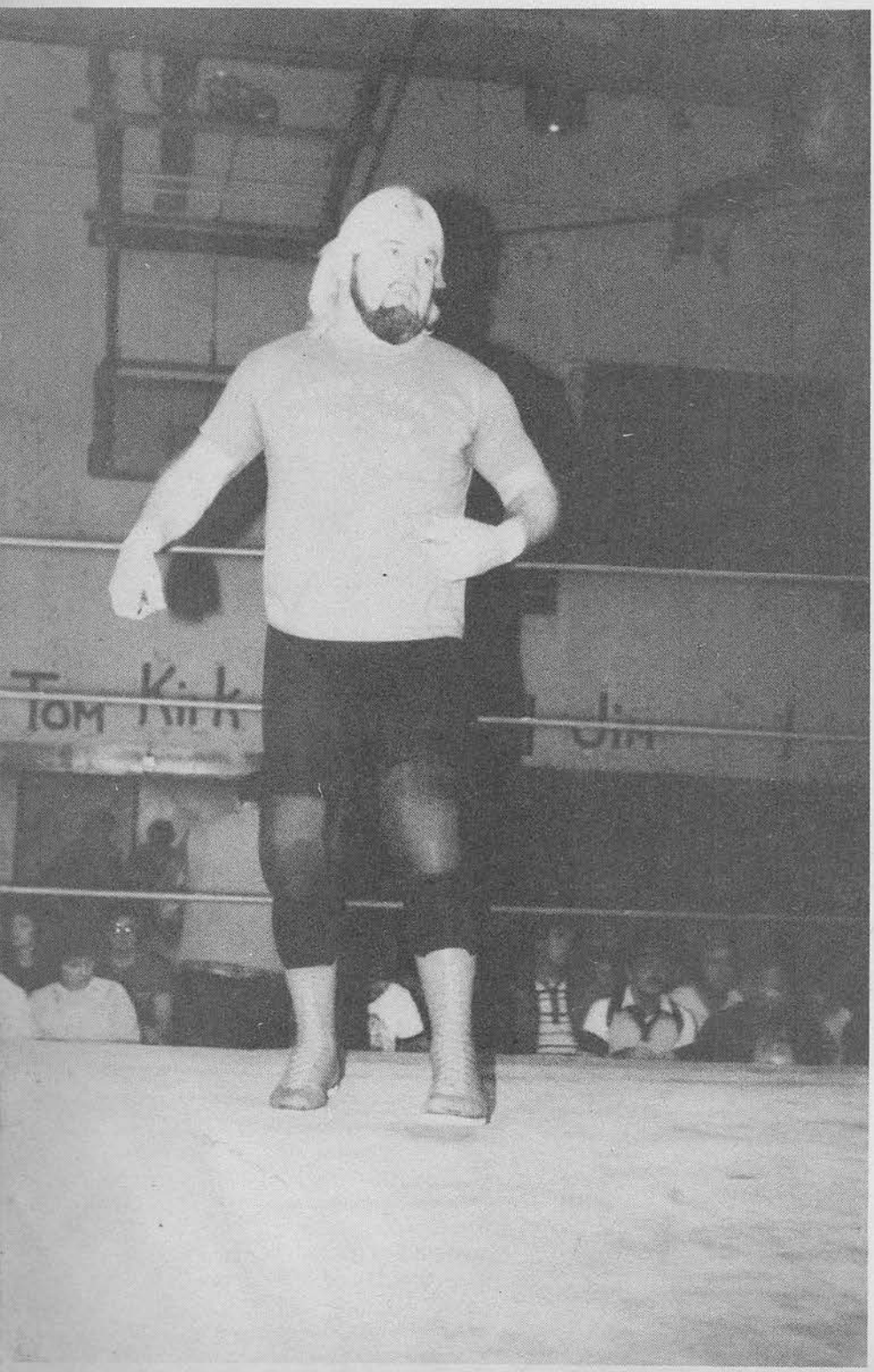
BLACK BART



RIP OLIVER'S ARMY

THE WRATH OF THE CLAN

Photos & text by Ken Hamblin



Rip Oliver has joined forces with Mean Mike Miller and the Masked Assassin.

Over the past few years one organization of wrestlers has ruled the Pacific Northwest; they are members of Oliver's Clan. The Clan has long been a factor in the title situation in the states of Oregon and Washington; the iron-handed leader of this hit squad is none other than Rip "The Crippler" Oliver.

The Ripper got his big break in wrestling here in the Pacific Northwest nearly five years ago and has taken full advantage of it, as he has become one of the most feared rulebreakers in the sport today.

Oliver has just recently returned to the west coast after a whirlwind tour that took him to the four corners of the world. On his return, Oliver re-formed the Clan and again assumed leadership of what may be the toughest group of wrestlers in the world today.

Besides himself, Rip has joined forces with former Clan members Mean Mike Miller and the Masked Assassin. The newest member of the organization is Hangman Bobby Jaggers, who is a former nemesis of the Crippler.

It wasn't long after the Crippler hit the scene again that he was challenging for all the area titles. "Bobby Jaggers and myself are and were partners for years down south. We had a falling out, but have patched things up and we are looking for the tag team titles."

These two didn't have to look very long, as they got their wish in Salem, Oregon. Oliver and Jaggers defeated Tom Zenk and Scott Doring for the Northwest Tag Team Championship.

"Bobby Jaggers and myself are a great team," exclaimed Rip. "Bobby is one of the best partners I've ever had, and the titles are now where they belong-around the waists of the Clan."

If these two weren't enough, Oliver has added the Masked As-

sassin to his little group. The masked man is a consummate bounty hunter and is just the kind of guy that Oliver likes to have in the Clan.

Not much is known about the masked man. What we do know is that he is a ruthless man who asks for no quarter and gives none in return. He has held many titles, including the Northwest Tag Team Championship seven times. He was also an all-around athlete and star on his high school wrestling and baseball teams, although he wouldn't reveal just where he went to school or what his accomplishments were, in detail.

The one thing that the Assassin feels is his main asset is his brains. "That's what it takes to be a winner in wrestling. Using your mind comes first in this sport," claimed the ring villain.

The other asset that Assassin has is his mask. It is, as for all masked men, a way to hide pain or fear from his opponent. It also is a convenient place for him to hide a foreign object.

On top of all this, the Assassin is one of the biggest and toughest men to ever step into the squared circle. He has crippled more men than we care to mention, and is willing to do this if the price is right.

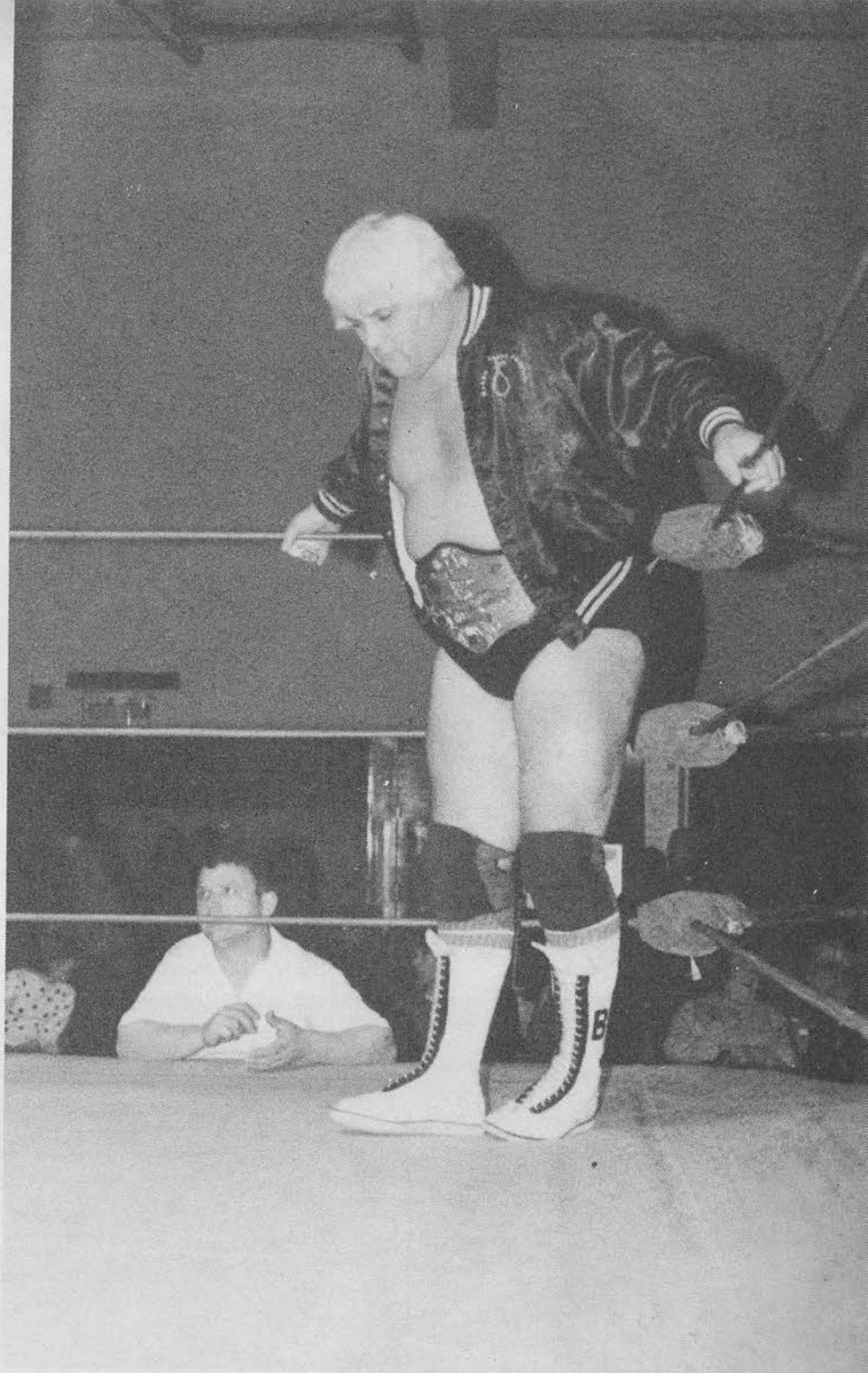
"Rip Oliver pays me a lot of money to be in his Clan, and if he says cripple somebody that's what I'm going to do."

The final member of the Clan is "Mean" Mike Miller from Larounger, Louisiana. Mike is the adhesive that keeps the Clan together. While Rip was away touring all over the world, it was Mike Miller who kept a foothold in the western United States for the Clan.

"Oliver told me to keep things in check and that's what I did," beamed Miller. "Rip told me he was proud of me for the job I did in keeping the Clan together and on top for him, and that makes me proud that I have done well for Rip."

Miller has gone from a leader to a follower since Oliver's return. Is this going to cause a problem in the ranks of the Clan?

"No, I can lead or follow," noted Miller. "As for problems between the members of the Clan, there are none. To prove it, Oliver has sent Bobby Jaggers and myself to represent him in the Jim Crockett Memorial Cup tag tourney in New Orleans."



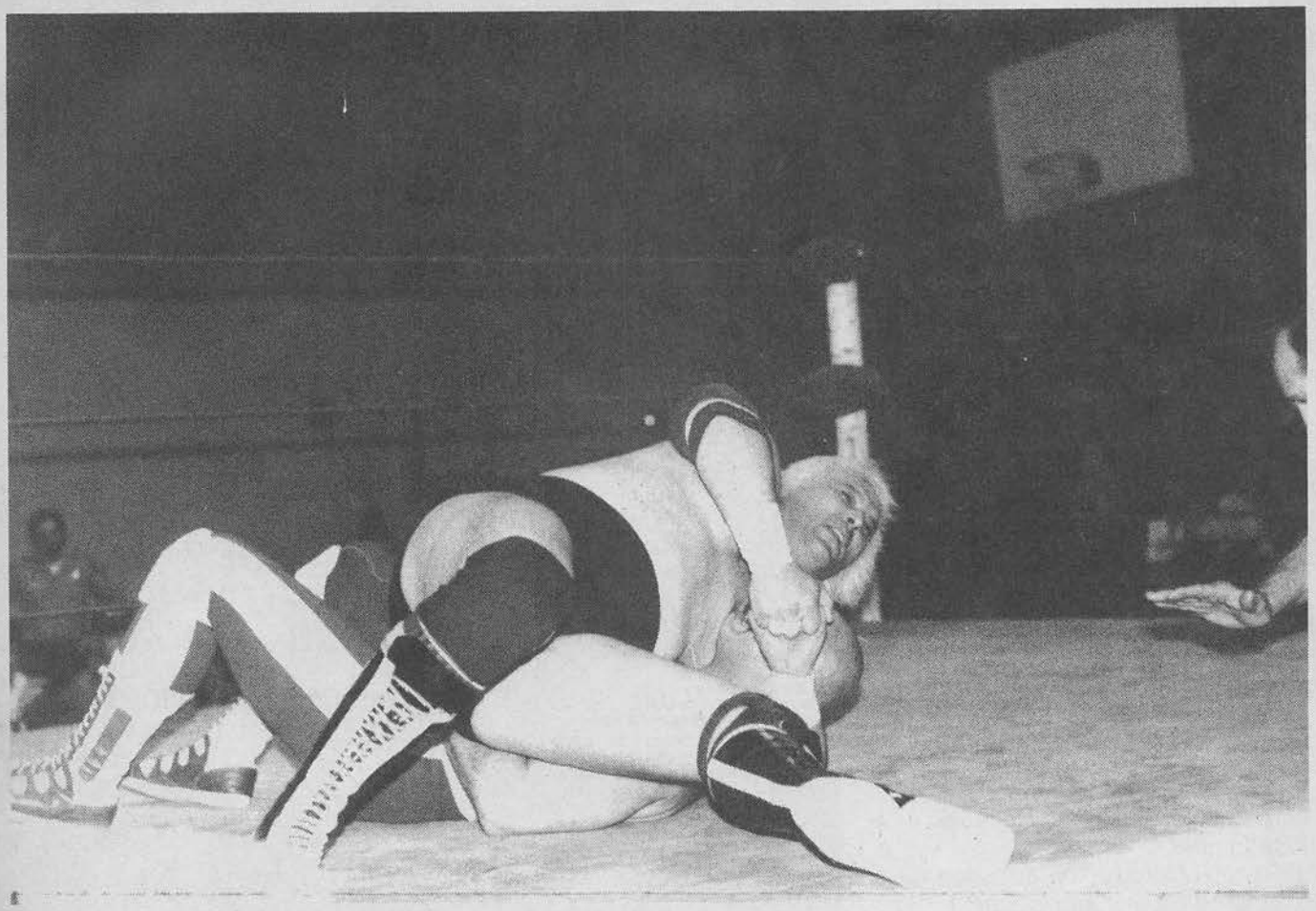
Bobby Jaggers represented the Clan at the Jim Crockett Memorial Cup.

Mean Mike went on to say," I think that shows the confidence Rip Oliver has in his Clan members. Instead of going himself, he's sending us and we plan to get the job done."

At the moment the Plan for the Clan is to rule the Northwest. They are well on their way to doing just that, and it's pleasing the "Crippler" to say the least.

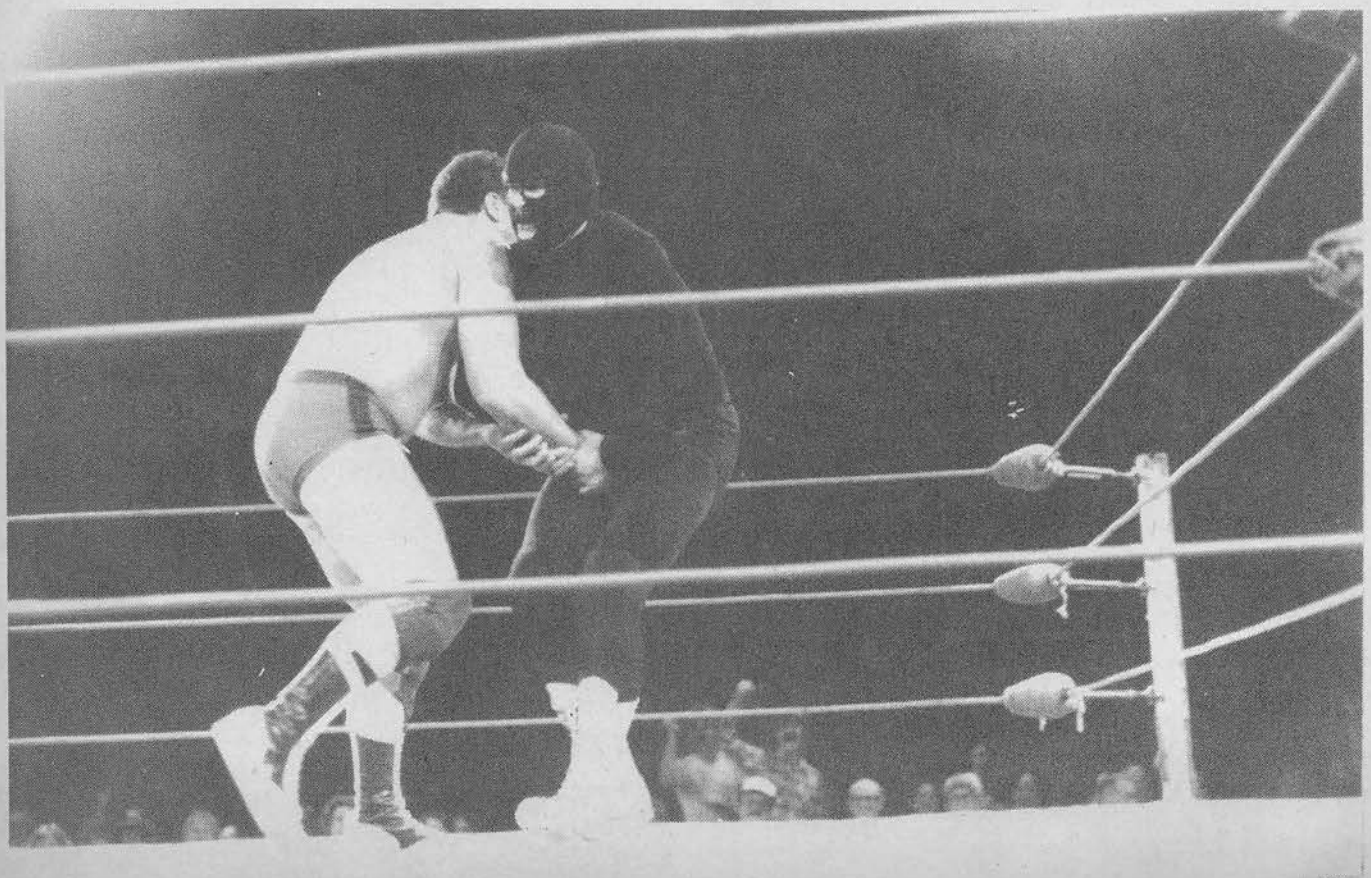
"I've amassed the toughest Clan ever and will rule the North west again like I have in years past," stated a confident Rip Oliver.

"If you have the guts to sign a contract to go against the Clan, you're taking your life into your own hands. There's one thing for sure-you'll be crippled and given a ride on the carryout service, feeling the Wrath of the Clan."



Hefty Bobby Jaggers headlocks his opponent.

The Masked Assassin prepares to Irish-whip Steve Pardee across the ring.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Managing Director,

I am a regular reader of your's. WRESTLING EYE is what I believe to be an unbiased and fair magazine. I live in England, but a friend of mine in Boston buys me a copy every month and sends it to me. The main reason I am writing is to ask if you would be kind enough to publish my letter on your letters page. I am trying to find guys (aged 15-25) who weigh under 165 pounds, who would either like to correspond as pen pals about wrestling or guys who like to wrestle themselves. I issue a challenge to any American fans!

I have enclosed a photo of a friend and I wrestling.

Thank you,
John Tanner
13 Harold Avenue,
Gorton, Manchester M18 TJT
England

Dear Editor,

In your July '86 issue of WRESTLING EYE, I noticed you failed to set straight some rumors about relatives. First of all, doesn't Robert Gibson of the Rock 'N' Roll Express have a brother that also wrestles? Didn't they wrestle as a tag team, before Robert Gibson met Ricky Morton? Also, is Nikita Koloff the nephew of Ivan Koloff? Is any of the above true? Please answer.

To a great magazine, thanks
L. Lyon

(EDITOR'S NOTE:
Yes, Yes and No.)

Dear Editor,

I found WRESTLING EYE to be a very interesting magazine. The article on Scott Hall was interesting. Even though I agree that he should spend more time on his wrestling skills, I believe he could beat guys like Stan Hansen, Larry Zbyszko and Michael Hayes with pure power. He's one of my favorite wrestlers and here's more of my heroes—Ricky Steamboat and Paul Orndorff. One more thing, I would like to see more midget wrestling in the WWF and AWA.

Keep up the good work,
David Kupec
Gtreator, ILL

Dear Mike,

I have been buying your magazine for a while. I liked this month's magazine on the relatives in wrestling. In June '86 issue, the article on Randy 'Macho Man' Savage was very interesting. If there's anything in your magazine more pictures or articles or information, WRESTLING EYE's got it. I would really appreciate if you can give me an address on Angelo Poffo.

Thank you,
Tony Paradise
Cleveland, OH

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *The best to write is Titan Sports—81 Hollyhill Lane, Greenwich, CT 06830.)*

Dear Editor,

I really enjoy reading WRESTLING EYE. I am a fan of Continental Championship Wrestling and I like the pictures of Brad and Scott Armstrong in the July '86 issue. None of the other wrestling magazines ever have articles or pictures of Continental Wrestlers in them. In future issues I would like to see more articles with updated pictures and I am sure other Continental fans would enjoy it also.

Renee Woodward
Munford, AL

Dear Wrestling Eye,

I enjoy the fact that you do articles on less known wrestlers from independent promotions like the E.W.A. But, the wrestler I would like to see an article on is Tommy Montana. He is wrestling for the World Class Championship Wrestling in Texas and could be the next major star of 1986.

Bill Notte
Rutland, VT

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

Let's have some posters of the Fantastics and Terry Taylor.

Keep up the great work,
Tracey Tabor
Benton, AR

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

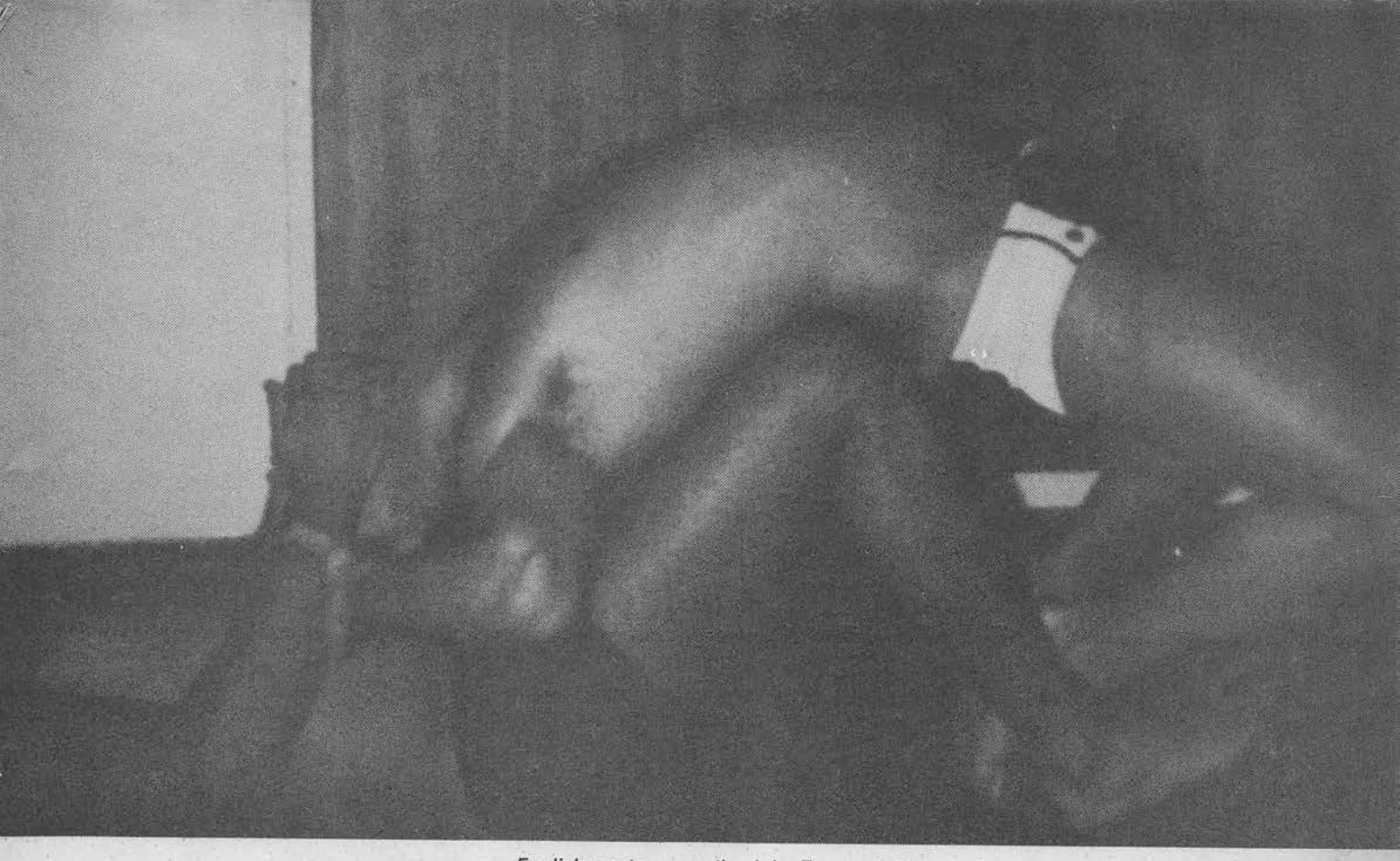
I am probably one of the top wrestling fans in the world today. If anything goes on, good or bad, I know it. I like to read the articles and take a good look at the ratings. This way, I know who's on top and who's not. I also like the color pinups in your magazine. I am not a reader, but when it comes down to wrestling, I can read it hour after hour, and day after day, because it's so exciting. I must say, your magazine knows what's going on in the NWA, AWA and WWF. That's what keeps me on top of the wrestling world and I think it's great.

Thanks for your time,
Mike Wood,
Roswell, NM

Dear Editor,

I am a big fan of Randy 'Macho Man' Savage. He is one of the greats in the WWF. I think he will lose his Intercontinental belt to Tito Santana, but he will win the world belt because of Hulk Hogan's bad knee. Hulk-a-Mania is truly dead. For now, it's Macho-Mania.

A Savage Fan,
Bill Louge
Lynn, MA



English amateur wrestler John Tanner challenges American amateurs to a bout or two.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I am one of the Rock 'N' Roll Express's biggest fans. Could you give me the address where I can write to Ricky and Robert?

In your next issue could you write an article about the incident when Ric Flair, Arn Anderson, Tully Blanchard and J.J. Dillon jumped Ricky and Robert from behind in the dressing room?

Thank you,
Karen Reis

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *To write directly to the R 'N' R Express, address your letters to: JIM CROCKETT PROMOTIONS, INC., 421 Briarbend Drive, Charlotte, NC 28209.)*

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I would like to know if you could tell me what happened to my favorite wrestlers Roddy Piper and Bob Orton?

Thank you,
Jeff Clark
Muncie, IN

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *Roddy Piper is in Hollywood filming a movie entitled BODYSLAM. His co-star is the Tonga Kid. No one has officially explained why Bob Orton isn't in the movie. Could the Cowboy have come to his senses?)*

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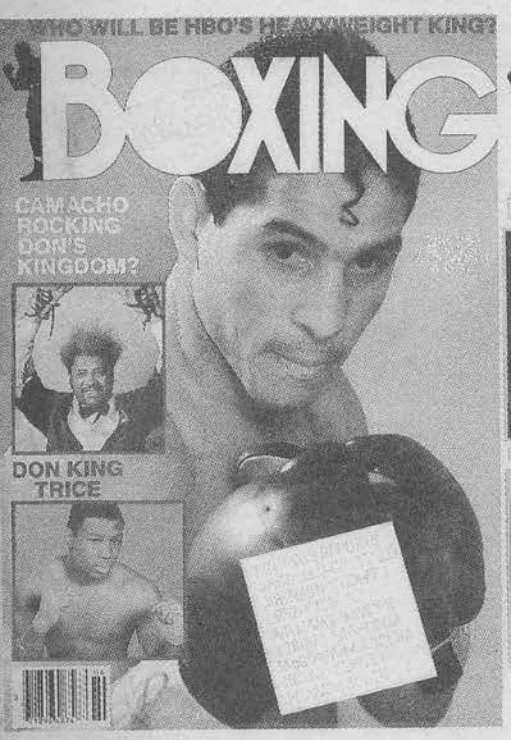

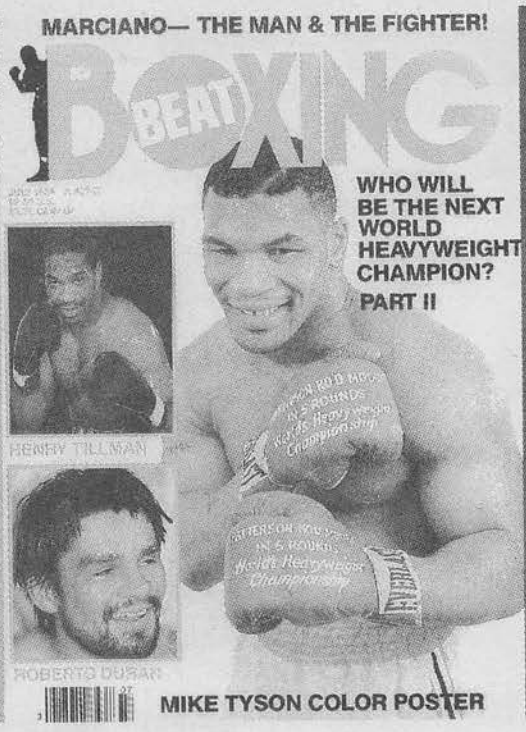

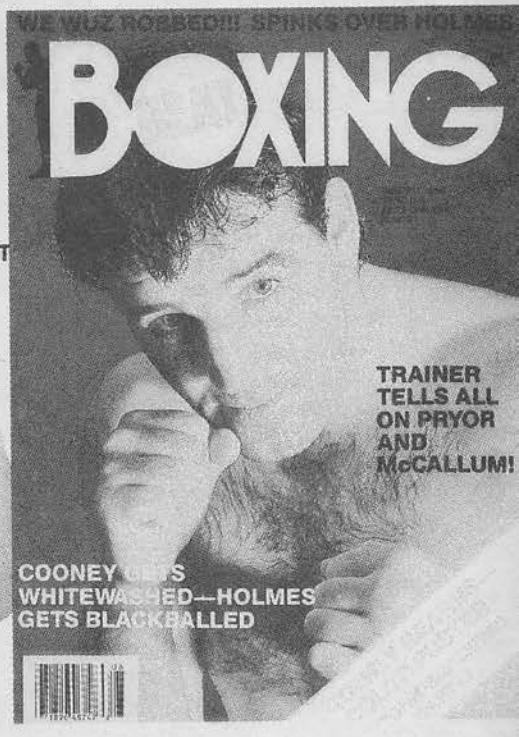

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In a test of strength, Judy Martin proved the better woman.

WRESTLING EYE

Sue Starr bodyslams Martin. In the final minutes, Martin was able to catch the rookie in a rolling-cradle.

Florida State champion Tracie Richards has Despina Montogas in an airplane spin.

A snapmare by Montogas sends Richards to the mats. Despina won the State Title via submission with a full-nelson.

GREAT NOVELTIES & JOKES FOR YOU!

PRIVATE PEN RADIO

Real Radio Concealed In Pen Case!

Keep up with Sports, News, Music...In school, office, bed, anywhere! Hides away in pocket or purse like regular pen. Comes with mini-earphone for fun listening. Best of all—No Batteries Needed! the solid state circuit is self-powered. Pulls in radio waves from the atmosphere: Germanium diode-type radio. Comes complete, ready to play.

☐ **SECRET SPY PEN RADIO** **$7.95**

STINK SPRAY!

Legend has it that this **TERRIBLE** spray was developed by three noted scientists—**PROFESSORS YUCH, ECH** and **BLARF**—after a steady diet of chili and beans. Just one spray from this can, and everybody in the room wants to know who did "**IT**"—or if the dog was **BAD**. You won't believe the hilarious **RESULTS**, and you'll never stop laughing! Watch people run from the room—**FAST!** Long-lasting 4-ounce can.

☐ **STENCH SPRAY** **$4.98**

HOT CANDY!

Looks like regular candy—but watch your victim's smiling face **SLOWLY** change—to confusion—and then **HORROR!** Because this pepper-spiked candy gets **HOTTER** the longer it stays in the mouth! This gag was a classic when your grandfather was just a boy—and it's **STILL** a classic! You get a generous supply of over 50 pieces of "killer candy"...

☐ **HOT CANDY** **$2.75**

X-RAY VISION

X RAY SPECS!

SUPER GAG!

Hilarious optical illusion! Scientific principle always works! With these X-Ray Specs you apparently see through flesh and peek at the bones underneath! Apparently see through clothing! and "embarrass" friends — they'll BEG YOU TO TRY IT FOR THEMSELVES! Be the most popular at school — BE THE LIFE OF THE PARTY! You also get funny tricks and amazing illusions to perform for your friends! Only $2.95.

HOLLYWOOD BLOOD CAPSULES

Blood flows from your mouth to the HORROR of onlookers! Pretend you had a fight or bit your tongue. A SHOCKER! A whole set of capsules $3.10.

SNAPPING GUM

Looks like an ordinary pack of gum. Except it snaps down on the fingers when your victim removes a stick! Works hundreds of times — $2.75.

LOUD NOSE BLOWER

You sound just like the real thing — ONLY 20 TIMES LOUDER! Everyone turns around and stares at you with laughter and amazement! Only $2.55.

WHOOPEE CUSHION!

The world's most famous gag! Inflate the rubber Whoopee Cushion like a balloon, and place it on a chair or couch. When your innocent victim sits on the cushion, it emits embarrassing noises for which there are no words to describe! **LOUD, LONG,** uncompromisingly **REALISTIC!**

☐ **WHOOPEE CUSHION** **$3.25**

YOU CAN SING

If you can speak, you can sing like a pro. Even if your voice sounds terribly off-key now. This complete easy course teaches you the secrets of professional singers. The very first day your mouth, vocal cords, lungs and diaphram will work in harmony to make beautiful, resonating tones. People who sing seem more attractive, enjoy popularity and money. It works. Only $5.95.

PLAY GUITAR★★★★★★★★★

In One Day

Course used by thousands of guitarists. Play a song the first day. After one week play almost any rock, pop, folk or western song by note or by ear. Comes complete with photos, illustrations, finger placing charts, popular songs. Easier, cheaper, faster than taking classes. Only $7.95.

INSANE JUMPING QUARTER!

A Wonder Of Science!

Looks like an ordinary quarter—but jumps high into the air! Wait until you put this on the counter to buy something and to everybody's amazement—**IT SOARS INTO THE AIR! WIN BETS** that **THRU THE POWER OF YOUR MIND** alone you can cause a 25¢ coin on a table to **JUMP UP!** Only you know the secret to make it work. Operates on scientific principle—gets laughs and amazement every time!

☐ **JUMPING QUARTER** **$2.60**

PHONY BRICK

Give them the scare of their life! Realistic brick made of soft foam rubber bounces off harmlessly. WHEW! $3.80.

MIDGET SPY CAMERA

Takes secret pictures using standard 126 film. Tiny working camera fits in palm of hand. Even a child can use it. Black & White or Color pictures—12 per cartridge—big 3½ × 3½ prints you develop at any photo shop or privately at home. Weighs less than 2 oz. yet built heavy-duty to last. With easy instructions, eye-level viewfinder, super-sharp lens. Hides in pocket, purse or hand. Always ready for friendly or secret action. Complete, only $5.95.

HOT GUM!

Looks like ordinary gum—**BUT WAIT 'TILL THEY TASTE IT!** And the "flavor" lasts long after they spit out the gum! Great for the "mooch" who always wants gum, candy, spare change. Watch their eyes water and lips painfully pucker up! **AAAAAAGGHHH!** Fools them all because it's professionally manufactured to look just like a regular pack of gum! 5 merciless sticks in each package!

☐ **RED HOT GUM** **$2.75**

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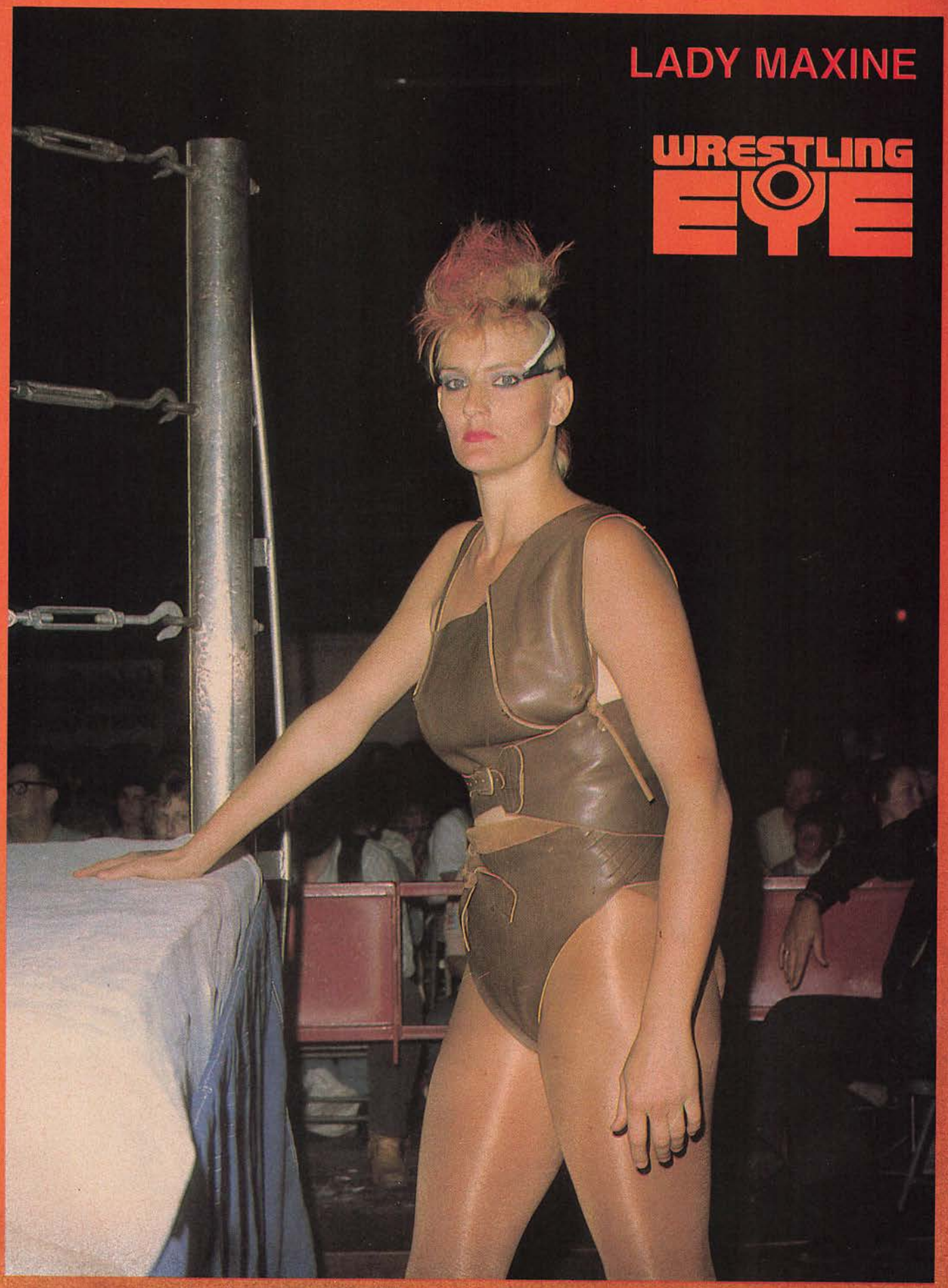
WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP



WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

TODD CHAMPION VS. KILLER KAHN

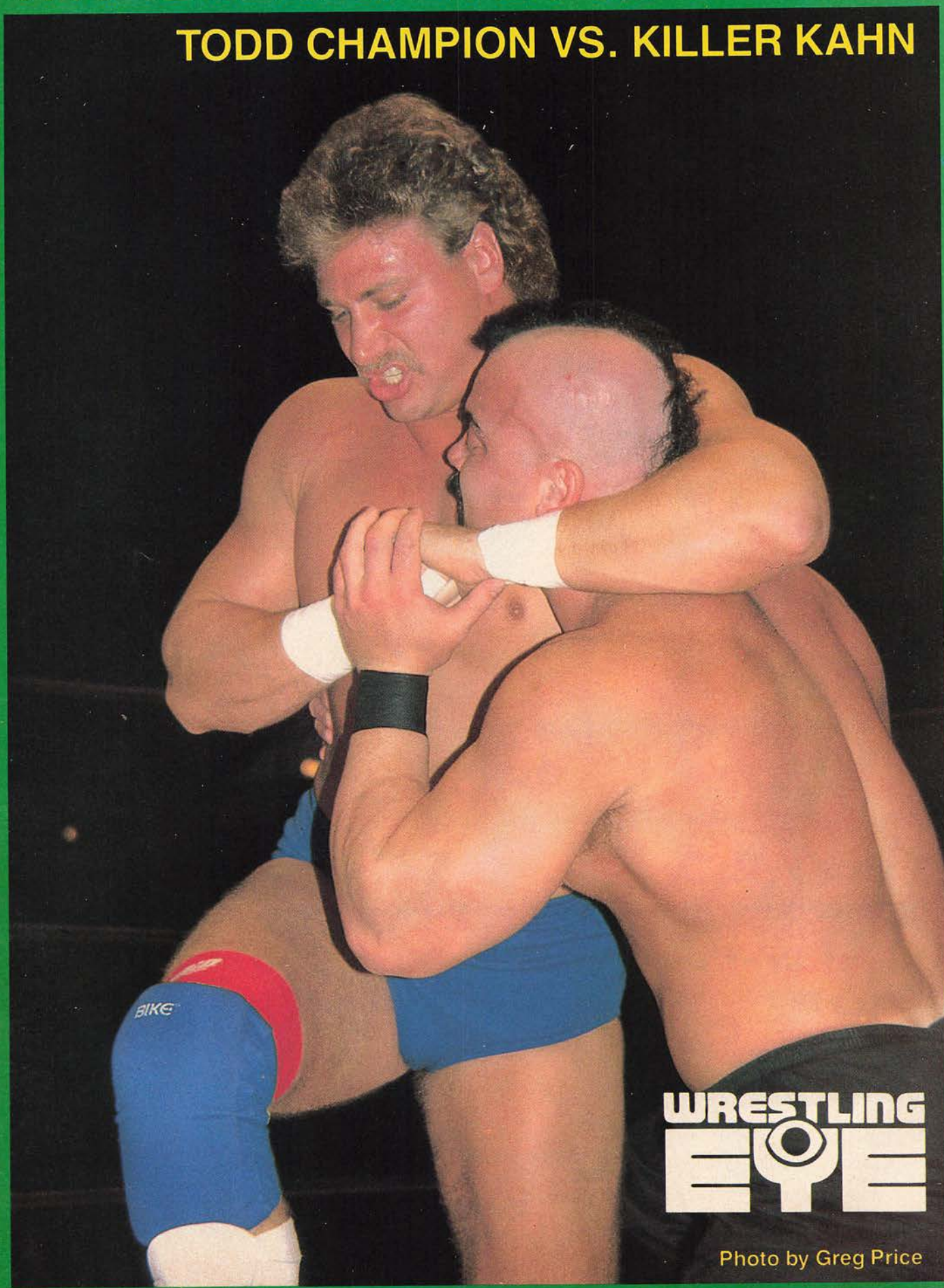
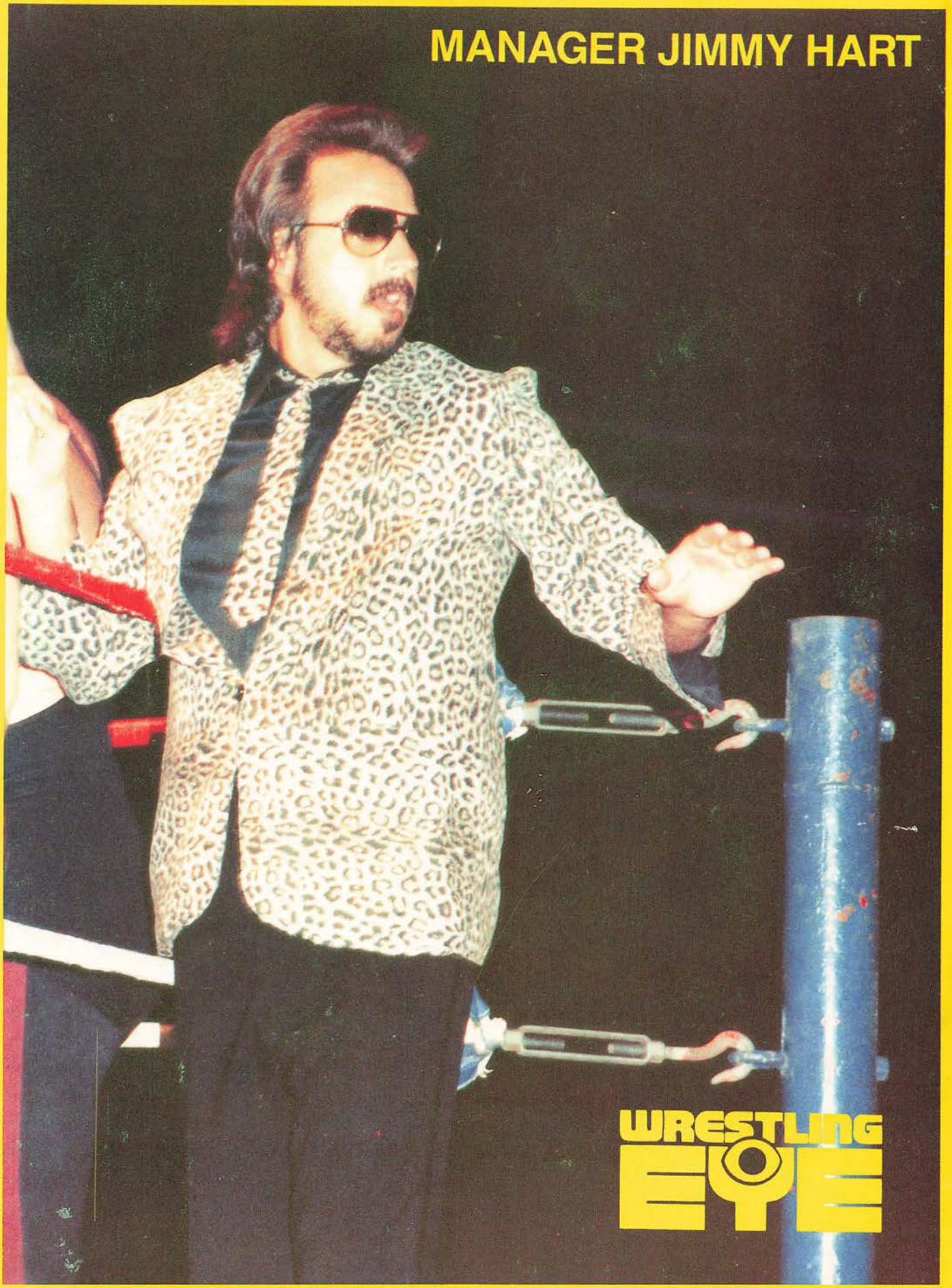
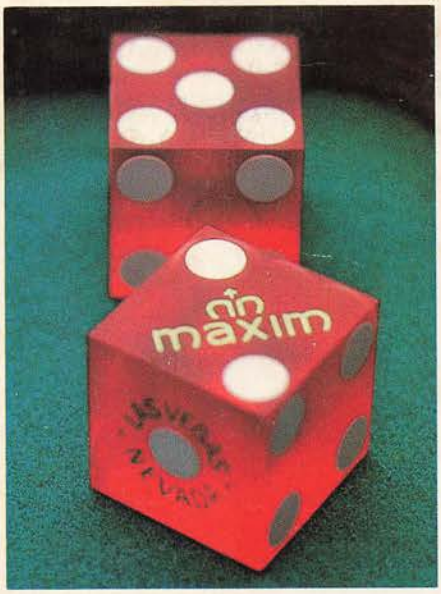


Photo by Greg Price

WRESTLING EYE PIN-UP

MANAGER JIMMY HART





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